

Photocopies of KW.I of File No. 25/4/NGO Vol. 2

Total Nos. of Pages: 257



~~गोपनीय~~  
~~SECRET~~

*30-1-08* विदेश मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(एन० जी० ओ० अनुभाग)  
(N. G. O. SECTION)

विषय : (कृपया इस आवरण को उलटें)  
(Subject : Please Turn Over)

फाइल नं०  
File No. KW.I of File No: 25/4/NGO  
Vol. 2

(Photocopies)

कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहां भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On
<div>Keep <i>23/12/15</i></div> <div><i>De Classified</i></div> <div><i>Challenging initials</i></div> <div>NOTE- Pg 40 to 39 CORR- Pg 40 to 257</div> <div></div> <div></div>					



TOP SECRET

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

File No. 5(T)MCO-1.

Volume

Embassy of India in Japan  
Tokyo

SECTION

5

NOTES

CORRESPONDENCE

Subject

ASHES OF SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

In Sectional Note Book

of S. O. Supdt.

of Clerk

Previous References

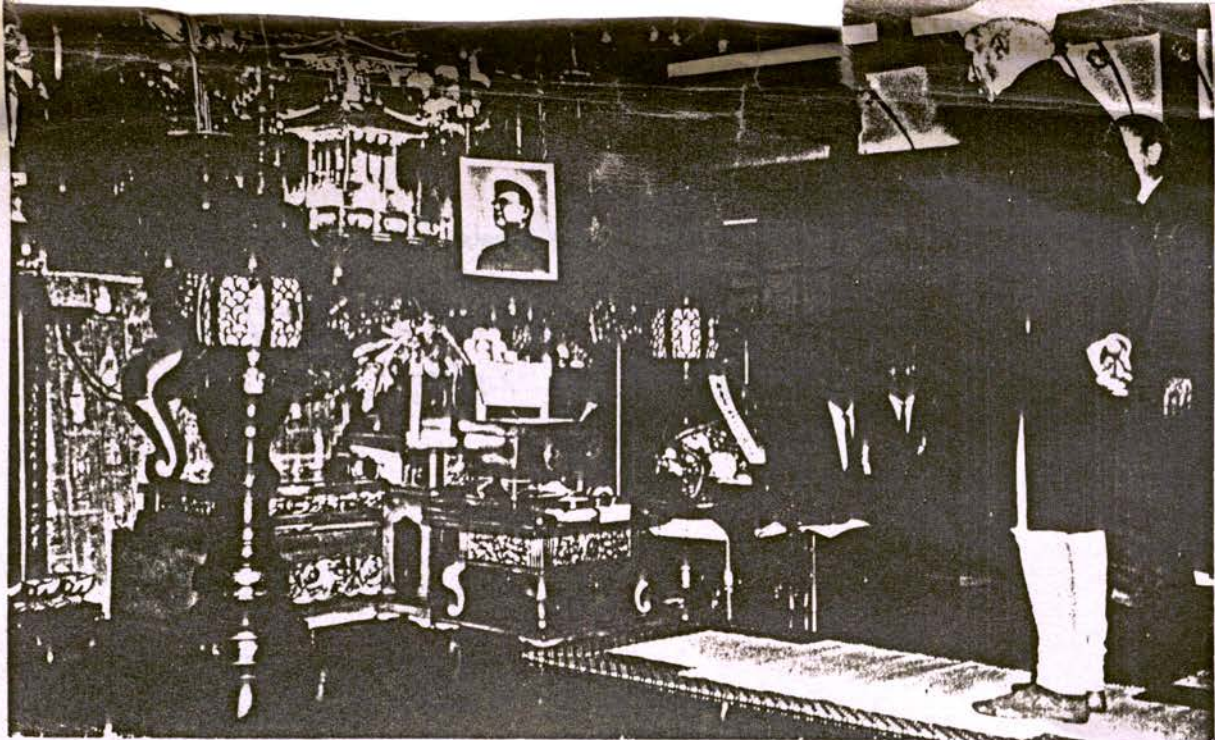
Later References

F.26(14)48 - destroyed - 85

F.1(33)SS/64. ] POL SEC

F. No. TSC/SS/6/70







Embassy of India in Japan, Tokyo

File No. F.5(1)NGO-I

Subject:- Funds of the Indian  
Independence League

Dy No. 553/52 (1) (p 1-8/c)

Ltd. KKC.

Dy No. 3575/52 (2) (p 9/c)

(3) Issue (p 10/c)

Dy No. T.6 38/52 (4) (p 11/c)

Please see p. 111/c of linked  
file F.26(14)/48.

Lt.

31/10

F/S.

The letter of 24/10/52 has already been  
sent to the p. 111. Below. We shall send  
another copy.

V.C. P.D.

24/10

Amb.

Ambassador in London

31/10/52

Mr. W. S. Chugh

(5) Issue (p 12/c)(6) Issue (p 13/c)(7) Issue (p 14/c)

F.R. (8) (p 15/c)

Filed.

Lt.

10/11/52

Dy. No. T.S. 43/52 (9) (p 16/c)

May file.

Lt.

13/11

F/S

Replied.

13/11

(10) Issue (p 17/c)

(3)



NOTES

Dy. No. 48TS/52 (11) (p 18/c)  
Dy. No. 49TS/52 (12) (p 19/c)  
 (13) Issue (p 20/c)  
Dy. No. 67/52 (14) (p 21-22/c)  
 (15) Issue (p 23/c)  
Dy. No. 28/53 (16) (p 24/c)  
Dy. No. 29/53 (17) (p 25/c)

Seen by the Amb. File.  
 Itd. V.C.T.

Dy. No. 6TS/53 (18) (p 26/c)  
Dy. No. 7TS/53 (19) (p 27/c)  
 (20) Issue (p 28/c)

Dy No. 16-TS/53 (21) (p 29/c)

Immediate action please. Please tell me when it is complete.

File is with Cypher Assistant with whom this letter should be filed.

Only Reg(G), Cypher Asstt and Accountant to know of this matter.

Itd. RS 12-5-53

The amount of ₹ 20,000 has been removed from SS's safe and handed over to Accountant, and has been credited as indicated in PUC. A copy of the Receipt Voucher is placed on the file for information and record.

\* p. 30/c

h.c.  
 12-5-53  
 SS(1)

Reference P.UC.

2. If the Ambassador approves, the draft letter placed below may issue.

*R. S. S.*  
 14-5-53

Ambassador

*The letter has been sent over my signature*  
*mmh*  
 15/5

(22) Issue (p. 31/c)  
Dy. No. 102/53 (23) (p 32-40/c)

File please.

Itd. R.S.

(4)



NOTES  
F 5(1) NGO-I

Dy. No. 205/53. (24) (p. 41/c)

(25) Issue (p. 42/c)

Dy. No. 19/54 (26) (p. 43-45/c)

(27) Issue (p. 46-47/c)

Dy. No. 148/54 (28) (p. 48/c)

(29) Issue (p. 49/c)

Submitted for information.

ku  
15/3  
Am

Am  
16/3

Dy. No. 181/55 (30) (p. 50-51/c)

Submitted. All the connecting papers have been  
flagged. Perhaps we need only invite the  
attention of the Ministry to their own references  
instead of attempting to frame a reply.

ku  
15/7

Am

Ambassador.

Well,

Am  
19/7

Very

Draft submitted for approval.

Am  
19/7

Issue

Am  
19/7

(31) Issue (p. 58/c).

In connection with the visit this morning,  
to the Chancery, of the Chief Priest of the Rencop  
temple ~~and~~ accompanied by the management  
the temple a draft telegram is put up for  
consideration of Ambassador.

Am  
26/7/55

Am  
26/7/55

(5)



(32) June (p 53/c)

Dy. No. 197/55

(33) (p 54/c)

Submitted

klh  
29/7

F.S.

With refce to p.u.c a draft telegram  
is p.u. for consideration

AKGan  
29/7

*[Signature]*  
29/7/55

Amb.

(34) June (p 55/c)

Dy No 204/55

(35) (p 56/c)

Seen by Amb. and F.S. Filed.

klh  
11/8/55

With reference to p.u.c the date

for the memorial service already  
chosen by the temple authorities  
is 18<sup>th</sup> August. This is also the  
date accepted by the Govt of India  
as being the date of the death.  
Ambassador may advise if this  
date should be adhered to or if some  
change in it is desired.

(Haga N, R + Sanyu)

AKGan

11/8/55

Amb.

If the service is held  
on the anniversary of his  
death, then another branch  
be changed. However, I do  
not wish to ask him. Consulted  
first.

*[Signature]*  
11/8/55

(I am getting in touch  
with the chief-priest)

6



Dy No. 215/55 (36) (p.57-c)

For information, please

11/18

Deposited HNSA

11/18

f.s.

With reference to E.A. Ministry's telegram No. 28436 of July 30th, I summarize below the developments to-date regarding the memorial service for the late Subhas Chander Bose.

The Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple wherein the ashes are being kept met me in details and subsequently the Ambassador briefly. He was informed that the Embassy had no objection to his idea of a memorial service on August 18, 1955. He was advised, however, that the memorial service should be conducted in an appropriate and dignified manner. Apparently the temple management committee members amongst whom there are also members of the Diet and of the Municipal Assembly sensed the interest of the Embassy and decided to gain political profit thereby. This was discovered when I met the Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau and particularly the Chief of Protocol who was rather worried that we were encouraging the temple management committee in collecting funds both privately and from the Japanese Government to have a Japanese styled memorial service. The Japanese style memorial service includes besides the brief religious service, feasting and distribution of gifts on as lavish a scale as is warranted by the circumstances of those who sponsor the memorial service. The Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau felt that the Gaimusho should be represented at the memorial service but the Chief of Protocol was quite clear that it would not be proper for the Japanese Government to be represented at a memorial service unless the service was sponsored by either a Diplomatic Mission or the



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NOTES  
FS(1)NG07

(8)

Japanese Government itself. So far as sponsorship by the Japanese Government was concerned there was little time to put the matter up to the Japanese Government for a decision. Also it was unlikely that the Japanese Government would in any case agree to holding the service in the Renkoji Temple or in any other temple and not prefer a non-religious place. The Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau was agreeable, however, to attending the service in his private capacity providing the circumstances so warranted. Upon subsequent discussions with the Chief Priest and the temple management committee it was found that the temple authorities had indeed thought of collecting money and doing publicity which incidentally but materially would be of benefit to the Renkoji Temple. The Renkoji Temple is not a very popular temple in Tokyo being of the Nichiren Sect which is the minority Buddhist Sect in Japan. Keeping these factors in view, the Chief Priest was advised that the Embassy would not be happy if the memorial service was followed by feasting and revelry or any undesirable publicity. The Chief Priest assured me that he himself was not interested in any money and would ensure that the service was conducted in a simple but appropriate manner. He felt, however, that a service on a more elaborate scale might be conducted later on.

The temple authorities besides sending a formal intimation to us also sent intimations to certain other individuals. The Embassy staff was accordingly advised to feel free to attend the service. A wreath was sent on behalf of the Ambassador and under his instructions and in his absence on tour to the Hokkaido Island I attended the service on August 18th. The Registrar from the Trade Section was also present. Amongst the Indians there was Mr. S.S. Virik of Malaya, the former I.N.A. cadet in Japan and presently studying at Tokyo University. The temple authorities also took the ashes from

(8)



Mr. Sahay's house to the Renkoji Temple in September, 1945. Also Mr. Murthy, the younger brother of the 'famous' Mr. Murthy who is supposed to have grown rich at the expense of the I.N.A. funds, two Indian visitors whose names I do not know and another Indian resident in Tokyo but whose family is settled in Ceylon.

I gathered that the Chief Priest has during the past years also held private services on each August 18 but has not specifically notified any one of the services being held and as such the attendance, if any, was by the followers of the Nichiren Sect who happened to be visiting Renkoji Temple at that time. On this occasion such stray visitors were apparently confined to the outer halls and the corridors during the period of the service. Inside the service hall which would normally seat 60 or 70 persons only 25 persons were present besides the temple priests. Amongst them were Lady Tojo, wife of the late General Tojo with her A.D.C., ex-General Kawabe, former Supreme Commander of the Burma Area Forces, ex-Lt.General Nakamura, former Commander-in-Chief of the Siam Area Army, ex-Lt.General Mutaguchi, former Commander-in-Chief of the North Burma Advanced Army which went upto Imphal and ex-Colonel Fujiwara, who was the Adviser-in-Chief to the I.N.A. in Burma and Principal Staff Officer of the Southern Area Army. It might be mentioned that Lt. General Nakamura and Colonel Fujiwara were taken to India during the I.N.A. trials and served imprisonment as War Criminals in Singapore. The other three Generals served their term as War Criminals in Sugamo in Japan. I understand that all of these ex army officers are now in private business. I do not know the names of the other persons as I was not introduced to them but I spotted two members of the House of Councillors who were noticeable on account of their distinctive purple colour lapel badges which signified the membership of the House of Councillors.



I understand that Mr. Majumdar, the present President of the Indian Association had initially thought of attending the service but desisted from doing so. He was apparently prevailed upon by the few vocal members of the Indian community who either do not accept the fact of Netaji's death or dislike participation in anything connected with Mr. Murthy and Mr. Aiyar.

The service started just after 3.00 p.m. and lasted for slightly less than an hour. The first half consisted of prayers in Japanese and the latter half of recitation from the Geeta. There were no speeches on this occasion. All present burnt incense according to Japanese Buddhist ritual in front of an altar inside the hall. The wooden box containing the ashes was not placed on the altar but kept in a different part of the hall. I believe that this was done in order to avoid any controversy about honouring the ashes which are still not accepted by some as genuine and also to avoid any feeling that any particular human being was being worshipped. I think that the service as such was conducted in a simple but very dignified and orderly manner.

After the service I was introduced to Lady Tojo and the ex army officers named above. I gathered from them that Count Keizo Shibusawa grandson of the founder of the former Shibusawa Zaibatsu, presently President of the International Telegraph and Telephone Company etc. is thinking of financing a Subhas Chander Bose study group in Japan. The Generals present at the service were fairly enthusiastic about the idea but did not clarify as to what the objective of the study group would be.

The urgent issue seems to me to be the disposal of the ashes. Although two successive Heads of Mission in accordance with Government instructions have asked the Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple to continue as



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NOTES  
FSC/NN/501

the custodian of the ashes on behalf of the Embassy of India the box containing the ashes bears no seals of the Government. Aesthetically the box is not very attractive either. There is no reason perhaps to suspect that the Chief Priest would have tampered with the contents of the box in any manner as he is not particularly interested in the ashes one way or the other. He is nevertheless a fairly aged gentleman and not getting any younger. If, on the other hand, we put Government seals on the box now expectations will immediately be aroused that Government are likely to take over the ashes soon. Also the temple management authorities may raise enough fuss thereafter to oblige us in donating some money for the temple. I feel fairly satisfied that the Chief Priest is a good man and speaks sincerely when he states that he is not interested in making any money out of his custodianship of the ashes. He does say, however, that whatever we may give should be for the temple thereby implying an expectation, not unreasonable of an eventual donation from Government for the temple. It would be best, therefore, if whatever donation has to be given is given only at one point of time and that too only after a final decision has been reached on the disposal of the ashes. It might be better, under the circumstances, not to put any Government seals on the box containing the ashes until a firm decision has been reached about the disposition of the ashes themselves. Perhaps these things cannot be hurried but if the ashes are accepted as genuine it would be desirable to arrange a somewhat more appropriate custody thereof than is the case at present and at least a more proper receptacle for them.

A.K.D.  
( A.K.D. )  
25.8.55



FS(1)1000-1

In my view, we should let the ashes be where they are now in the Renkoji Temple for the present I do not think it would be wise at this stage to take any step such as F.S. has suggested to put Government seals on the box containing the ashes.

A copy of these notes may be forwarded to the E.A. Ministry for information.

*B.R. Sen*

( B.R. Sen )  
30. 8. 55

F.S.

Issue letter dictated to Milcanl.

(27) *Am* (P58/c) 30/8

Dy No. 265/55 (38) (P59/c)

Ambassador may kindly see p.m.c. which was handed to me personally by the spokesman of the temple management committee. The Chief Priest has neither approached the Gaimusho nor us personally on this service. In fact the temple management committee went to the Gaimusho first and only after I told the Gaimusho that we knew nothing about this service we approached. It will be noted that whilst the service is supposed to be held for the 10th Anniversary of the death it is actually being held on the 18th September. This was explained to me by the temple authorities as being a slight verbal error for the service is the 10th Anniversary of the date of reception of the ashes at the temple. This also is incorrect for the ashes were received there on the 8th Sept 1945 according to our information.

Am

*Am*

14/9

We will not take

any action / Gaimusho  
may be informed accordingly

*Am*

19/9

(12)

Pl fix up the  
F.S. with Milcanl

pa



In connection with the proposed second memorial service arranged by the Renkoji Temple for September the 18th. Mr. Kawasaki, <sup>whom I met today,</sup> was either unable or unwilling to clarify in detail why the Gaimusho was interesting itself in this service when they had not done so in the previous service. From what I could gather it appears that there is still some disparity of thinking between the Protocol Division and the Asian Affairs Bureau. Apparently the earlier decision of the Gaimusho not to be represented ~~at~~ the August 18th service was hasty and has been held incorrect by the higher ups in the Government including Mr. Hatoyama who according to Mr. Kawasaki has been influenced by various Diet Members. I have explained clearly to Mr. Kawasaki and he agrees that the Government of India could not possibly be expected to attend a service every month, and that the Embassy would not in any way participate in the proposed service for September the 18th. I have also informed Mr. Kawasaki that newspapers are already beginning to wonder as to why the Gaimusho was not represented at the previous service and why the Indian Embassy will not be represented at the proposed service. I have clarified that whilst we could not but welcome any honour that the Government of Japan may wish to render to one of our national heroes it would be unfortunate if this is done in a manner which would invite controversy and participation by the Gaimusho in the September 18th service is likely to do so under the circumstances. Mr. Kawasaki said that he would do his best ~~to~~ see that the Press does not create any controversy at the Gaimusho's non-attendance on the last service and the Indian Embassy's non-attendance at the proposed service and that he would also ensure that any participation by the Gaimusho now was done in as ~~an~~ unobtrusive<sup>a</sup> manner as possible.

I have a feeling that in deciding to participate in the proposed service the Gaimusho is partly atoning



14

Hottel 13000601

and  
for its non-attendance on the last occasion / partly  
there is some other reason which Mr. Kawasaki was not  
willing to give out. However, he is quite clear that  
the Indian Embassy could not properly be expected to  
attend another memorial service on September the 18th  
after having done<sup>so</sup> on August 18th which was the more  
correct date.

Handwritten  
( A.K.Dar )  
15. 9. 55

21

Ambassador

Good. Thanks.

Pa. Dar  
15/9/55

Deposit.

Handwritten  
15/9

Subsequent to the above I ~~have~~ made further  
enquiries about the second memorial service on September  
18th, 1955. September 18th was selected by the temple  
authorities because according to Japanese Buddhist  
tradition a memorial service can be held every month  
so long as the date is the same as the date of the death.  
About 35 persons in all were present at the second memo-  
rial service at the Renkoji Temple. The assemblage  
included Lady Tojo, ex-General Kawabe, the Secretary of  
Mr. Shigemitsu, representing the Foreign Minister of  
Japan, Mr. Hattori, the Chief of the India desk represent-  
ing the Gaimusho, Mr. Matsuda, also of the India desk  
and five Indians. Of these five, one was Mr. Tandon  
of the P.T.I. who went primarily as a reporter. The  
remaining four were Mr. S.S. Virik, a visiting Buddhist  
Monk, another person from Ceylon who claims Indian descent

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and a casual Indian visitor. Mr. Shigemitsu sent flowers through his Secretary and the Gaimusho donated Yen 20,000 as condolence money which is customary in Japan on such occasions but which was also given on this occasion as part compensation to the Chief Priest for keeping the ashes. Three persons spoke at the occasion including the Chief Priest himself. The Chief Priest apart from other things expressed his annoyance that the Indian community by absenting itself should continue to imply that the ashes were not genuine.

This change in the attitude of the Gaimusho, to a memorial service for Netaji, in comparison to abstention on the last occasion was, I gathered, owing to differences of opinion in the Gaimusho itself. This question had all along been dealt with in the Protocol Division of the Gaimusho and the Chief of Protocol ruled previously in consultation with the Vice-Foreign Minister that the Gaimusho could not properly interest itself in any memorial service organized privately at a temple. The Asian Affairs Bureau, on the other hand, had held that this attitude would, apart from being somewhat disrespectful to Netaji not be good public relations either. The temple management authorities had all along been anxious both to collect some money for the temple by holding a memorial service and also to secure some publicity for the temple itself. They complained about the abstention of the Gaimusho from the August 18th service to certain Diet Members who represented to some Cabinet Ministers till eventually Mr. Shigemitsu was apprised of the position. The Foreign Minister was generally favourable to the stand of the Asian Affairs Bureau and the Asian Affairs Bureau accordingly encouraged the temple to go ahead with the preparation for the service on the 18th September irrespective of whether the Indian Embassy or any one else was interested or not. I have also been given to understand that



that the Japanese Embassy in India consulted General Bhonsle on the matter and got the impression that a formal memorial service would be quite appropriate. I doubt if the Japanese Embassy knew or mentioned to General Bhonsle that ~~the~~ memorial service had already been held on August 18th and that the Indian Embassy had been represented at that service. This, however, is a somewhat irrelevant point as the responsibility for encouraging the temple authorities to hold the second memorial service on September 18th rests fully with the Gaimusho who sought to rectify their earlier incorrect stand by participation in this second memorial service.

I cannot help feeling, ~~unpleasantly~~, that the Gaimusho are interested in having the ashes sent to India in order to close the still lurking suspicion in their minds that the Indians somehow hold the Imperial Japanese Government responsible for some negligence in not safeguarding the life of Netaji and the property of the I.N.A. which he was reportedly carrying. So far as I am aware, however, no formal approach has yet been made by the Government of Japan to ascertain whether the Government of India would arrange for the removal of the ashes from Japan. In the meantime both the Vernacular and the English Press is again attempting to find some sensational mystery in this apparent controversy. We can obviously take no initiative in the matter unless the Government of India who are fully aware of the situation indicate whether they are willing to proceed further.

*A.K. Dar*

( A.K. Dar )  
20. 9. 55

Ambassador

*Copy of note from p. 10 may be  
forwarded to EAM in continuation of the previous.*



The motive of the Gaimusho in sending it support to the record of the controversy in this way is not yet quite clear.

The Japanese Embassy in India is apparently taking some interest and so should be asked. It may be worth while asking the British about it.

I ~~am~~ adhere to my remarks of May 30 above. I should like to make it clear that the Japanese authorities are.

I shall discuss this at the EAM where I am in the next month.

78

John  
2/6

Dy: No. 266/55 (39) (p 60-62/c)

Dy: No. 268/55 (40) (p 67/c)

(41) Same (p 65/c)

(42) Same (p 66/c)

17



EMBASSY OF INDIA, TOKYO

SUBJECT:- LATE ~~MR.~~ SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AND I.N.A. TREASURE

<sup>out</sup>  
Set/below are the views and feelings of some of

the more vocal members of the Indian community on the above subject which have come to my notice during the last one year.

A. THE FACT OF DEATH:

(1) There are reports that Subhas Chandra Bose when he left Rangoon had no intention of proceeding to Japan via Formosa. If that is so it seems odd that he suddenly changed his mind after arrival at Saigon. It is possible that he was compelled by the Japanese authorities to board a plane that was going to Japan.

(2) The story put up by the Japanese that Bose was fleeing from the Occupation Authorities is highly derogatory for no leader like Subhas Chandra Bose would leave his men without making any arrangements for their safety and well-being.

(3) Even if it is conceded that he was coming to Japan with the object of final discussions with the Japanese authorities and voluntarily boarded the plane at Formosa it seems unusual that on the one hand he should after the accident be well enough to prevail upon the attending Japanese doctors to give priority in treatment to others and at the same time that he should ~~certainly~~ have died over-night. If it is correct that he was fully conscious despite his burns on the night of August 17th might it not be that the Japanese doctors were under instructions not to treat him properly so that they would have less difficulty with the anticipated demands of the Occupation Authorities for turning him over.

(4) It seems that beside the testimony of Habib-ur-Rahman there is no direct evidence as to the fact of death and subsequent cremation. In case the Government of India have satisfied themselves that the death and cremation are correct and no negligence can be attributed to any source the full facts for such a conclusion should be published.

B. THE GENUINENESS OF THE ASHES:

(1) It is not known whether Habib-ur-Rahman was



physically well enough to supervise the cremation and the collection of the ashes.

(2) Even if Habib-ur-Rahman did supervise the cremation and collection of the ashes there is no direct evidence that those were the very ashes which the Japanese Government turned over to Aiyer and Ramamurthy.

(3) The fact that Aiyer and Murthy received the ashes and asked the I.N.A. cadet to deposit them in the Renkoji Temple seems strange behaviour when many Indians still in Japan who had already risked their lives would not have hesitated to safeguard the ashes of a national hero. There could obviously be no certainty under the circumstances if the ashes were genuine and even if they were if the urn which has been lying in the Renkoji Temple for the last 10 years does in fact contain the ashes of Subhas Chandra Bose. Keeping in view that this matter was brought to the attention of the first Indian Representative to Japan Shri B. Ramabho in 1947 by a written memorandum from the then President of the Indian Association it seems strangely disrespectful that the Government of India should have taken no interest in the subject until this year.

(4) In case the Government of India now decide to accept the ashes as genuine a full statement should be issued showing the evidence by which such a conclusion has been reached and explaining satisfactorily why no action was taken in the matter for almost 10 years. There have been reports that the Government of India are now willing to cover up for the negligence and worse of the Japanese Government over the matter of Subhas Chandra Bose perhaps in order to derive some political advantage from Japan. That would be deeply mortifying if correct.

C. THE I.N.A. TREASURE:

(1) It has been confirmed that Subhas Chandra Bose was carrying two heavy suitcases of which one at least contained treasure only. Is it not unusual then that the contents of both these suitcases could have been packed in two Kerosene oil tins plane after the crash. It is very likely that the Japanese authorities



in Formosa did not send everything to Tokyo.

(2) Even so, the two containers were handed over to Ramamurthy and Aiyer in September 1945 and for six years they completely denied any knowledge of having received any treasure whatsoever. In the meantime both Aiyer and Ramamurthy have prospered materially without any visible means. In 1947 when the memorandum was submitted to Shri B. Rama Rao the reply received by the then President of the Indian Association was that the Government of India could not interest itself in the I.N.A. funds. It was only four years later that Government made any attempt to find out whether there was some I.N.A. treasure involved in the plane crash at Formosa. May the reason not be that only after Aiyer and Ramamurthy had managed to get away with the treasure that they informed the Government of India of their being some property which they ceremoniously handed over in order to cover up their misappropriation of the bulk of such treasure. There is no information that the Government of India has taken any action in order to thoroughly investigate the treasure that was being carried in the ill-fated plane and what happened subsequently to it. Obviously Aiyer and Murthy could have taken out such treasure from Japan only with the connivance of the Japanese authorities and the excuse that conditions in Japan were then very confused is not sufficient exoneration for the negligence of the Japanese authorities in allowing the I.N.A. property to be smuggled out of the country. Government should hold a public enquiry which if it would not get back the treasure would at least determine who the likely culprits were who did away with it.

Finally the general complaint is that the disinterested attitude of the Government of India for almost 10 years is not particularly praiseworthy as it not only helped the guilty parties concerned to escape without blame but also because it postpones the rendering of honour to one of the great leaders who gave his life for the independence of India.

It will be observed that the stand of the Indian



Community is not completely logical but reflects a fair degree of emotion.

(A.K. Dar) Ok.  
26.9.55

Ambassador

(13) Issue (167/c)

(44) (168/c)

Seen by C.D.A. Filed.

ltn.  
10/10.

As desired by Ambassador the papers re: the late Sri Subhas Chandra Bose are put up herewith. The P.T.I. newsreport on Mr. Bose's latest speeches in Parliament is also placed below.

B.K.S.  
24/10

Amb.

Dy. 302/55 (45) (169-171/c)

Dy. 296/55 (46) (175-177/c)

Sl. (45-46) Seen by rule and f.s. Filed.

ltn.  
31/10.

Mr. Nakagawa, Director of the Asian Affairs Division told me this afternoon that he had been asked by the Foreign Minister to convey to the Indian Embassy that the proposal of the Government of India to conduct an enquiry into the circumstances of the death of the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose was acceptable to the Government of Japan in the terms in which the proposal was made by the Indian Ambassador to the Foreign Minister.

2. Mr. Nakagawa informed me that if the Ambassador wished to receive the above reply from Mr. Kadowaki



that could be arranged but so far as the Government of Japan was concerned the above consent of the Government of Japan to the idea in principle could now be transmitted by us to the Government of India.

3. Mr. Nakagawa added that the Government of Japan hopes that there would be no departure from the main objective in view and extraneous enquiries and aside researches would not be made.

4. Mr. Nakagawa then asked for our detailed proposals about the method in which the enquiry is proposed to be conducted and whether we would give any documents to the Government of Japan in advance to enable the Japanese side to assemble the facts readily for further cross-examination. Mr. Nakagawa informed me that on their side the Japanese Government is preparing a detailed note containing all relevant information available about the circumstances relating to the death and would be happy to make that document available to us for transmission to India in confidence.

5. Mr. Nakagawa requested finally that the present status of negotiations on the subject should not be revealed in public without prior intimation to the Japanese Government and unless it was absolutely necessary to give publicity. Mr. Nakagawa clarified that of course the fact of enquiry would become public at a slightly later stage if and when any enquiry team comes from India or is set up in Japan.

6. The delay in reply explains Mr. Nakagawa arose from the Cabinet not having met until this morning.

Atkan

( A.K.Dar. )  
8. 11. 55

(22)

Ambassador

An appointment with Mr. Nakagawa is being obtained as desired by Ambassador.

In the interim I have again spoken to Mr. Nakagawa about the impracticality of maintaining secrecy on the subject & he has replied that if that is unavoidable it will be quite alright.

Ambassador.

Atkan



Discussed with V.A.  
Kakowaki. He communicated  
to me unqualified acceptance  
of our proposal in terms of  
our B.R. with Nora.

He also attended the  
conference May 1st at R  
Draft Telegram to Nora.

*[Signature]*  
12/11/55

*[Signature]*

Issue telegram below.

(47) Issue (1-78/c) Handwritten  
144

Dy: No. 23/56 (48) (1-77-80/c)

"Spoken to F.S."

Hd: B.R.S.

filed,

14/11

Dy: No. 50/56 (49) (1-81-92/c)

"Morning Meeting"

Hd: B.R.S.

1/2

Submitted, please.

14/11

for

Handwritten  
47

(50) Issue (1-91/c)

Dy: No. 6-76 (51) (1-11/c)

Seen by Amb. and F.S. Reed.

14/11  
22/2

Handwritten



NOTES  
F5(1) 1140-1.

(24)

Dy No. 76/56 (52) (p. 95-102).

As directed by F.S., a copy of note along with a copy of 86.48 forwarded to Shri. I.N. Kaul.

$\frac{14}{25}/2$ .

Dy No. 131/56 (53) (p. 103/4)

See by ams. and F.S. Filed.

Dy No. 142/56 (54) (p. 104-106/4).

(24)



## SECRETARY'S SECRETARIAT.

Shri Bhrish Chandra Bose and Shri Shah Nawaz Khan saw me this morning. The former gave me the attached letter.

2. I told him that the enquiry had necessarily to be private and not a public one. It was not a judicial enquiry in the normal sense of the word, and no oaths could be given. The matter was complicated because the enquiry will largely take place in a foreign country, namely Japan, and we could not impose any terms on the Japanese Government. We had to proceed with their full cooperation. Our effort should be to get as many facts as possible about Netaji Subhash Bose's last days - his disappearance or death or whatever it was. Apart from the direct evidence which we have thus far received and which may further be obtained, it seems to me almost inconceivable that Netaji should be alive. Over ten years have passed since the aircraft accident. Even if he had escaped then I cannot conceive how he could possibly remain silent during all these years when it was very easy ~~xxx~~ for him to communicate in various ways with India. All presumptions, therefore, are that he died and the real enquiry would be largely about the circumstances, but it was open to the Enquiry Committee to enquiry into every fact and circumstances available to them.

3. These are the general terms of reference. It is not necessary to make them more precise. On arrival in Japan, the Committee should immediately get into touch with representatives of the Japanese Government and discuss this matter with them and seek their cooperation. They will, of course, keep in constant touch with our Ambassador. As our Ambassador is in Delhi now, it is desirable that they should meet him before he goes back to Japan. Only two members of the Committee are in Delhi at present. The third member, Mr. Chitra, has not arrived yet. He is expected in a day or two.

4. I pointed out to Shri Bhrish Bose that Dr. Radha Binod Lal's appointment to this Committee was not suitable because of the part he played in the War Criminals' trial. He is, of course, a very eminent criminal jurist and is well known in Japan and elsewhere. But, in the circumstances, his functioning in this Committee might raise difficult problems and might not be liked by some foreign countries like the USA, which has considerable influence in Japan still. Apart from this, my impression is that Dr. Lal has accepted some kind of work on an International Commission elsewhere.

5. I told Shri Bhrish Bose that the question of War Criminals does not arise and we are not going to ask the USA or any other country as to whether Netaji is in the list of their War Criminals. Possibly, the Japanese would be that they believed he was dead. Anyhow, we do not propose to do anything in the matter. There can be no question whatever of our handling any person, even a non-Indian who seeks refuge in our country, from a foreign power, much less

contd...



an Indian national of repute.

6. I did not say anything specific about Shri Shah Nawaz Khan being a Member of the Committee because he was present at the time. I think the Committee that we have constituted should function without any change.

7. CS might keep in touch with FS in this matter as the latter dealt with this in the earlier stages.

8. I think that our Ambassador in Tokyo, Shri B.R. Sen, should meet Shri Suresh Bose and Shri Shah Nawaz Khan. This should be arranged.

Sd/-

(J. Nehru)  
2.4.1956.

(FS, Shri B.R. Sen will leave Delhi on the 4th.  
( Please show him this note and arrange a  
(CS meeting tomorrow. You might be present at  
the discussions.

Sd/- S.Dutt.  
2.4.56.

JS(E)

Shri B.R. Sen may kindly see. We could meet in Shri Shah Nawaz Khan's room at 6 p.m. tomorrow as Mr. Maitra, the 3rd Member will arrive at 5.30 p.m. tomorrow.

Sd/- T.N.Kaul.  
2.4.56.

Shri B.R.Sen  
US(FEA)

I have already fixed 7 p.m. at F.S.'s residence tomorrow. Shah Nawaz's Secy. had rung me up this afternoon.

Sd/- B.R.Sen.  
2.4.56.

US(FEA).

Sd/- R.S.Chavan.

2/4

(26)



Dy No. 150/56 (55) (p107/c)

(56) Issue (p108/c)

Dy No. 151/56 (57) (p109/c)

(58) Issue (p110/c)

Dy No. 152/56 (59) (p112-114)

See by f.s. Filed.

12/20/4.

Dy No. 170/56 (60) (p115/c) (p115/c)

Dy No. 169/56 (61) (p116/c) (p116/c)

Dy No. 188/56 (62) (p119/c)

(63) Issue (p.120/c)

Dy No. 181/56 (64) (p.121/c)

Dy No. 180/56 (65) (p.122/c)

Dy No. 203/56 (66) (p123/c)

(67) Issue (p124/c)

Dy No. 204/56 (68) (p125-126/c)

(69) Issue (p127/c)

Dy No. 205/56 (70) (p128/c)

(71) Issue (p129/c)

Dy No. 206/56 (72) (p130/c)

(73) Issue (p131/c)

Dy No. 221/56 (74) Issue (p132/c)

Amkarsur may kindly see form c I & II & fr.

Atkarsur  
27/57

Amk.

28/5

(75) Issue (p133/c)



With refce to par. c. I & II the Commission find  
it difficult to return my letter of 25<sup>th</sup> May as  
various notings have been made on it. Under  
the circumstances a draft amendment is  
put up which Ambassador may please see.

*[Signature]*  
28/5

Atch  
28/5

Amb.

(76) Issue (p. 134/c)

Dy: No. 222/56 (77) (p. 135/c)

Dy No. 220/56 (78) (p. 136-139/c)

Submitted, please.

ky  
29/5

F.S.

(79) Issue (p. 140/c)

(80) Issue (p. 141/c)

(81) Issue (p. 142/c)

Dy: No. 244/56 (82)

Submitted, please.

ky  
18/6  
for

Ambassador may see for present  
information. I asked Mr Hattori for  
clarification of the last para of his letter  
and learnt that no final reply has yet  
been received from the Japanese Embassy  
at Taipei.

Mr Hattori stated that their  
Embassy in Taipei had again reported  
that besides the previous request ~~for~~  
~~to~~ for assistance from the Britt Consul  
at Taipei to get the names and  
addresses of possible witnesses and location  
of crematorium records the Britt Consul has also  
now requested ~~to~~ the Japanese Embassy for  
setting the copies of hospital & crematorium  
records as requested by us. The Japanese Embassy  
has started both official & informal enquiries  
and will report to the Gaimusho in due course.

Amb.

*[Signature]*  
15/6/56

Atch  
15/6

(28)



Dy: No. 257/56 (83)

(p. 144/c)

Submitted, please.

Ambassador may please. I am writing to you formally.

RUSKIN  
4/7khs  
4/7  
Amb.  
F.S.

(84) Issue, (p. 145/c).

Dy: No. 277/56 (85) (p. 146/c)

(86) Issue, (p. 147/c)

Dy: No. 291/56 (87) (p. 148/c)

(88) Issue, (p. 149/c)

(89) Issue, (p. 150-155/c)

(90) Issue, (p. 156-158/c)

(91) Issue, (p. 159/c)

p.u.c. is for information.

RUSKIN  
26/7

Amb.



Dy: No. 314/56 (92) (p. 160/c) - P.u.c. I

Dy: No. 310/56 (93) (p. 161/c) - P.u.c. II

P.u.c. I and P.u.c. II for information, please.

khs  
20/8

F.S. &amp; Co.



Will F.S. advise about this? Are there any papers?  
Answers to 1 and 3 are comparatively easy and I know them.

Sd/- C.S. Jha  
16. 9. 57

F.S.

The papers dealing with the case are placed below.  
We also have in the Library the report of the Enquiry Committee. There are other files relating to earlier correspondence on the subject, sanctions for the Enquiry Committee and other administrative matters. These have not been put up. It is not possible to give any clear answer to (2). In a letter dated 4th December 1953, Miss. Leilamani Naidu instructing the Ambassador here about the letter to the priest of Renkoji Temple said "He should also be told that, at the proper time, we shall send for the ashes and have them in India." Later the Prime Minister speaking in the Lower House on 29th September said "Government have not approached the Government of Japan or the Management of the Renkoji Temple to bring these ashes to India. Government have felt that in this matter, no steps should be taken without the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose." We have no further information about the Government of India's intentions. Presumably, for reasons of domestic politics, it is not proposed to give publicity to this matter.

Two drafts are put up for approval.

*g. g. g.*  
19. 9. 57

Ambassador

(30)  
(- 164/1)



Dy: no. 21 Ts 157 (96) (-1651c) - puc

Pf: please  
242: 4.3.57 / 2.11.57

by 2/11/57  
fs.  
Papers are submitted, please

A draft letter to Rev. Kyoei Mochizuki  
is put up for Ambassador's approval as desired by  
Mr. J.S. Mehta.

approved.  
5. 11. 57

Ambassador

W. A. L.  
31 " 15 "

(91) 11.57 (f 1661c)



(18.1)  
Dy. No. 397/57 (98) p. 167/c  
Ep. Please  
10.12.57. -168

Do we have any ~~papers~~ papers on this subject?

Sd/- Pouchpa Dass  
11.12.57.

I.S.I. have no papers on the subject.

12/11 F.S. may please see

12.12.57

Papers Submitted, please

P.A.

~~F.S.~~

by  
12/12

A.

Issue letter dictated.

pp. 167/c

13. 12. 57

(99) by (p. 169/c)

Dy. No. 407/57 (100) (p. 170-171/c)

(101) by (p. 172/c)  
-175

Dy. No. 408/57 (102) (p. 176/c)

See by sub. A. ed

by  
17/12

Dy. No. 409/57 (103) (p. 177/c)

(3)



I attended the meeting referred to in the F.R. Actually the invitation was brought by Mrs. Emori who is a philanthropic society lady with a keen interest in India. She has for many years helped Indian students in Japan, even to the extent of giving them financial assistance when they have been temporarily embarrassed owing to exchange regulations etc. When I went to the meeting I discovered that it was sponsored by a number of War Criminals. Among those present were ex-Lt.Genl. Oshima, the last Imperial Japanese Ambassador in Berlin and ex-Lt.Genl. Kawabe who commanded the Imperial Japanese Army in Burma. Also present were ex-Col. Iwakuro and Mr. Takaoka, a Member of the Diet.

2. The speeches were mainly concerned with the late Subhas Chandra Bose who was personally known to most of those present. Ex-Col. Iwakuro said that the time had come to move the ashes from the obscure and inaccessible temple where they are now kept to a national shrine and that the Diet should look into this matter. In reply Mr. Takaoka said that he and his friends were already seized of this position and were proposing to move a bill in the next session for the shifting of the ashes to a monument to be built for the purpose. When this speech had been translated to me I replied that our Prime Minister had himself visited the Renkoji Temple and seen the ashes; he had expressed his pleasure and satisfaction at the reverent manner in which the Priest of the Renkoji Temple was looking after the ashes and in these circumstances I did not think that there was any need for moving them elsewhere. Ex-Lt.Genl. Kawabe then modified his attitude and said that the Renkoji Temple needed to be helped so as to make it more prominent and better known in consequence of the ashes that it



- 32 -

(34)

contained. I said that it was a very good idea to give whatever help was possible to the Renkoji Temple but that moving the ashes would raise several problems, inter alia the family of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose would have to be consulted.

3. I understood from the interpreter that the Gaimusho would be approached before a bill was actually tabled in the House of Representatives.

*sgvahl.*  
25. 1. 58

Ambassador

*WJ*  
22/1/58

*Mc*  
24.3.58

*WJ*  
24/1/58  
*JS*

Ambassador would recall my mentioning the F.R. to him. I find that the previous correspondence on the subject took place between the Head of the Mission and the Director of <sup>the</sup> Division in the Ministry. A draft letter to Shri B.K. Acharya is put up for approval.

*sgvahl.*  
18. 8. 58

Ambassador

*WJ*  
21/8/58

*Mc*  
21.8.

*JS*

(108)

(34)



pp. please.

(Sd) G.J. Malik  
18.10.

Papers submitted please.

22  
24\*F.S.

This was discussed with the Ambassador and I went to see Mr. Miyake, Dy. Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau. While mentioning the case to Mr. Miyake I also mentioned to Mr. Miyake that on 24th October another person, a Mr. I. Kagabu had come to the Embassy and told a practically identical story. <sup>Finally</sup> ~~In short,~~ I left Mr. Kagabu's written statement as well as the original Japanese record of the conversation of Mr. Takei with Mr. Miyake who said he would inquire into the matter. He mentioned, however, that two of the names given by Mr. Takei were of Koreans and that the reference to reimbursement to the present holder made him rather suspicious about the whole deal. He will inform me when he gets something from the Police.

S. Malik.

( G.J. Malik )  
28/10/1958

After discussing the matter mentioned above, Mr. Miyake said that he wanted to know when the Govt. of India proposed to move <sup>Shri</sup> Subash Bose's ashes. He said that this was a personal enquiry and the priest had been feeling uncomfortable about the continued presence of these ashes in the temple. It <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ not the custom in Japan for ashes to be kept continuously in temples. They are normally retained for a short period and then transferred to the family grave or shrine. Moreover the priest who is getting old, feels that he should not leave the ashes to others in Japan.

I gave him the <sup>usual</sup> answers that there had been no <sup>request</sup> reply from either Mr. Bose's family in Austria or his relations in India about the ashes and that we might be embarrassed by having these ashes in India where there is no practice of keeping ashes since, among Hindus, the ashes



are either cast into a river or otherwise scattered. Mr. Miyake said that, in any case, it will be more appropriate for the ashes to be disposed of in India than have them to be retained indefinitely in Japan. There is force in this argument particularly when we are officially taking steps to take away the ashes of Rash Behari Bose and arrangements are being made for their retention in India. Ambassador may wish to bring this matter to the notice of the Govt. as, I think, Mr. Miyake expects an answer from us. The last letter from the Ministry on the file is at sl.no. 96 and is now a year old.

flag 'A'

g prahl.

( G.J. Malik )  
28/10/1958

~~Ambassador~~

I think we should repeat the gist of the second part of J's note of 28/10, with much for their information & make comments if any. I shall also mention this matter to G. Singh in Delhi.

Li Sh  
26/11/58

Fs

same letter dictated.

g prahl.

27.11.58

(101) - 1000

Dy. NO (108) - F.R. (p. 182 - 183/c)

Since my meeting with Mr. Miyake in October, Mr. Abeyaratne has again been in the Embassy. As I was not in he left a letter in Japanese of which the F.R. is a translation. I saw Mr. Miyake on the 15th at a party and he said he had handed over the case to Mr. Iwama. Accordingly I went to see Mr. Iwama yesterday and gave him the original and the enclosures to the F.R. He was rather discouraging, saying that the information we had received was not specific, that it would be difficult for the



Police to undertake investigations without infringing the human rights provisions of the Constitution, etc. He went so far as to suggest that we should engage a private detective. I pointed out that publicity was precisely what it was the interest of both governments to avoid and that the police could find things out with much less danger of publicity than a private investigator. I also said that it would be desirable to give some answer to the various parties which had come to the Embassy with information. Mr. Iwama said he would ~~consult~~ consult the Legal Affairs Bureau in the meantime. This is for Ambassador's information.

17.12.58.

Amalgamated

Sen. Hanks

U.S.  
17/12

17/12

D.No. 18/59

(107)

V.C. will pt. up with pp.

16.12.59

(110) - Receipt

(111) - Receipt

Dy. No. 129-115/61

(112) - Receipt

Dy. No. 137-55/61

(113) - Receipt

(114)

223-55/61

(115)

(3)



Ambassador might like to glance through the interesting file about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, placed below. It concerns a wide range of subjects connected with Netaji, viz., circumstances and details regarding his death, the treasure which he carried from Bangkok, the behaviour of those of his colleagues who were the last to see him alive, the work of the Netaji Enquiry Commission appointed by the Government of India, in 1956, etc.

[in the I.N.A.]

2. This file is, and would be of historical interest. I feel that we should send it back to the Historical Division of the Ministry and after due scrutiny and weeding out, those portions of file which are of permanent interest, should be passed on to the National Archives.

3. If Ambassador agrees, we will send the file back to India by diplomatic bag.

(J.N. DIXIT)  
9.12.1965

Ambassador

These papers are interesting and of considerable historical value. From what I can judge, most of it has been brought to the notice of the Government and their files sent. The main issues involved, eg: of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death, and the disposal of his ashes, have not yet been settled. We shall therefore want these papers here & they should not be sent to India. They should be properly bound & kept in our archives.

2. It is somewhat strange that the Services



(as far as I can judge) has not yet been shown  
 these papers at any stage. Apart from being interested  
 in this episode with which our Army is involved,  
 I think he should try to trace the various Japanese  
 officers mentioned, find out what they are doing  
 now, & attempt to cultivate them. The  
 same thing could be done with the civilian  
 personalities involved. In this way, we could  
 keep Netaji's contacts with Japan alive; and  
 make some use of them for our purposes now.

3. C.A. should also see for the same  
 purpose.

~~ES~~

102771  
 13.12.65

S.A. & C.A. <sup>T.S.I</sup> should see this  
 file before action for budg  
 this is taken.

13.12.65

Seen through  
 C.A.  
 T.S.I  
 Seen through  
 15/12/65

Seen through  
 C.A.  
 15.12.65



14  
No. P. 1003-CJK/52  
Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs.



40

(1)  
New Delhi 18 March, 1952.

by 18/3/52  
27/3

Dear Mission,

We enclose for your information a copy of question No. 334, answer and supplementaries in the Parliament of India about the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Yours ever,

Ministry of External Affairs.

The Indian Liaison Mission,  
Tokyo



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Question 334.

Shri Mamath: In view of the fact that the House is deeply interested in this matter, may I request the Prime Minister to read not the whole of the resume but at least Habib's version on page 2 and 3?

Mr. Speaker: I do not see why the time of the question hour should be taken by such reading. The resume is already there and non-Members may refer to it.

Mr. Kamath: So that separate questions may be put and answered.

Mr. Speaker: He has got a copy of the statement.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I, Sir, read the last two lines? The report is a detailed version of the enquiry. It also contains a certain version given by Japanese officers who met him. (Mr. Ayer). These are details but the final conclusion I would read from the report.

"In conclusion I would repeat that I have not the faintest doubt in my mind that the ashes that are enshrined in the Renkeji temple in Tokyo are Netaji's."

Mr. Kamath: Did Mr. Ayer in May last visit only Tokyo or also Taihoku, Saigen and other places?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have to speak from memory. I do not think that he went to Taiwan or Rormesa. I cannot say about any other places either.

Mr. Kamath: The report with me says that at Taihoku after the.....

Mr. Speaker: I do not see the utility of putting these questions. The report is by an officer and it is before the House and all that the hon. Prime Minister is doing is to convey the report to the House. How can he answer questions about the accuracy or otherwise of the report?

Mr. Kamath: Is it not a fact that on several occasions in this House the former Home Minister, Sardar Patel and later Dr. Keskar stated that they had no irrefutable evidence or proof of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and if so, may I know whether this is taken as the last word on the subject?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This is the fullest and latest account that we have had. Whether it is the last word or some further information may come later I cannot say but it does seem now that it is a fairly convincing account.

Mr. Kamath: Now that Government is satisfied that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is definitely no more, is there any proposal before Government to erect a suitable memorial to him in the Red Fort?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid I must disallow the question. It is a suggestion for action. Next question.



Admitted as No. 334 in the Final List.

Q U E S T I O N

\* Shri Kamath:

Will the Prime Minister be please to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri S. A. Ayer, Director of Publicity with the Government of Bombay, recently returned from Tokyo and submitted to Government a report on the death or present whereabouts of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) if not, whether the House can have a resume of the contents thereof?

A N S W E R (ORAL)

Hon'ble Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:

(a), (b) and (c)

On the 15th of September 1951, Mr. S. A. Ayer called on the Prime Minister and told him that he had paid a brief visit to Japan towards the end of May. The purpose of his visit had been to re-verify the story of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's air crash near Taihoku (Formosa) on August the 18th, 1945. He also showed the Prime Minister some papers, some photographs and some documents signed by the Japanese people. At the Prime Minister's request, Mr. Ayer sent him a detailed report of his enquiries on the 26th of September. A resume of the report is placed on the Table of the House.

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(42)



R E S U M E

O F

SHRI S. A. AYER'S REPORT ON AIRCRASH OF NETAJI  
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AT TAIHOKU (FORMOSA) ON  
AUGUST 18, 1945.

.....

At 5-15 P.M. on the 17th August, 1945, I and a number of my colleagues saw Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Col. Habib-ur-Rahman off by a bomber leaving Saigon airport for an unknown destination. The Japanese authorities offered me a seat in a plane leaving Saigon for Japan on 20th August and hinted that I could join Netaji very soon. I reached Saigon airport on the morning of the 20th August, 1945, and there accidentally met Mr. Fukuoka, Chief of the Domei News Agency for the East Asia Regions who told me abruptly that he was sorry for Netaji. I merely presumed that Netaji had been held up in Formosa owing to bad weather. A little later just as I was going to board the plane, Rear Admiral Chuda of the Japanese Navy told me that Netaji was dead. I had no chance to ask him for details because in the next few moments I was aboard the plane.

When we reached Canton airport at 5 p.m. and halted for refuelling, Col. Tada, who was escorting me, took me aside and told me for the first time that Netaji's plane crashed near Taihoku (Formosa) on August 18 and that Netaji was seriously injured and succumbed to his injuries the same night, and that Col. Habib-ur-Rahman, who was not so seriously injured, was alive and lying in a hospital in Taihoku. I asked him to take me to Taihoku so that I could see Netaji's body with my own eyes and also be of some service to Habib. I told him that without positive proof nobody in India would believe the story. Though Col. Tada promised to help me, I was not taken to Taihoku.

We reached Tokyo on the 22nd August, 1945 and the Japanese, in consultation with me, drafted a brief communique announcing the death of Netaji. On September 7th, Sri Rama  
Murthy,

43



Murthy, ex-Chairman, Indian Independence League in Japan and I contacted the Japanese Military authorities who told us that the ashes of Netaji brought by Habib from Formosa the previous day would be handed to us for safe custody and that Habib himself would be joining us sometime that evening. I received the ashes at the hands of a senior Japanese military officer at the main entrance to the Imperial Japanese Military Headquarters, and took them to the house of Sri Murthy. The same night Habib arrived in the house of Sri Ananda Mohan Sahay where I was staying. I give below Habib's version of what happened to Netaji after I saw him off at the Saigon airport on the evening of August 17th 1945.

Habib's version begins: "A couple of hours after we took off from Saigon aerodrome on 17th August, we landed at Touraine (Indo-China) and halted there for the night. Early next morning we again took off and landed at the Taihoku airport at about 2 p.m. on the 18th. We took off from there at 2.35 p.m. We had just cleared the runway and gained two or three hundred feet height when there was a sudden deafening noise. I thought it was an enemy fighter. I learnt later that one of the propellers of the port engine had broken. The plane was already wobbling and in spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane crashed on its nose and everything went black for a while. When I recovered consciousness a few seconds after, I realised that all the luggage had crashed on top of me and a fire had started in front of me. So, exit by the rear was blocked by the packages and exit by the front was possible only through the fire. Netaji was injured in the head but had struggled to his feet and was about to move in my direction to get away from the fire. As there was no passage I said to him "Aagese nikliye, Netaji". With both his hands he fought his way through the fire and stood outside about ten or fifteen feet away. When the plane crashed, he got a splash of petrol all



over his cotton khaki and it caught fire when he struggled through the nose of the plane. So he stood there with his clothes burning and making desperate efforts to unbuckle the belts of his bushcoat and round his waist. I dashed up to him and tried to help him remove the belts. Then I noticed that his face was battered by iron and burnt by fire. A few minutes later he collapsed and lay on the ground. I was also exhausted and lay down by his side. The next thing I know I was lying on a hospital bed next to Netaji. I learnt later that within fifteen minutes of the crash, military ambulance had rushed us to hospital in Taihoku city. Netaji lost consciousness almost immediately after reaching the hospital. He regained it soon after. He never complained about the writhing pain that he must have been suffering. Except for brief spells he was conscious throughout. A moment before his end came he said to me "My end is coming very soon. I have fought all my life for my country's freedom. I am dying for my country's freedom. Go and tell my countrymen to continue the fight for India's freedom. India will be free before long." The Japanese made superhuman efforts to save Netaji. But it was all in vain. Six hours after he was brought into the hospital i.e., at 9 p.m. on 18th August, 1945, Netaji's end came peacefully.

"When I felt well enough to talk to them I told the Japanese to arrange to send Netaji's body by plane to Singapore or to Tokyo. They promised they would. They then told me that it was impossible to carry Netaji's remains out of Taihoku and cremation had to be arranged as early as possible. They asked my consent for it. I had no other alternative but to agree. The funeral service with full military honours was held in the shrine attached to the hospital and the cremation took place on the 20th. They placed Netaji's ashes in an urn and kept it in the shrine. Three weeks later I was told that a



A single ambulance plane was leaving Taihoku and I could get a seat. I took charge of Netaji's ashes and flew by that plane and reached Tokyo on the 6th September 1945. I was taken straight to one of the suburbs for the sake of secrecy and it was only two days later that the Japanese took first the ashes and then me into Tokyo city." Habib's version ends.

On September 14, we took the ashes to the Renkoji temple in Tokyo where we held a funeral service conducted by the priest of the temple and left the ashes in his safe custody.

I and Habib were flown to Delhi under military escort in an American plane and reached Delhi on November 22, 1945.

I paid a brief visit to Japan towards the end of May, 1951. I was in Tokyo from May 24 to June 10. During my stay there I tried to meet as many Japanese nationals as I could, with a view to checking up the truth of the air-crash. First I went to the temple to make sure that the ashes were there as I left them six years ago. The same priest was still there.

The first Japanese I saw after meeting the priest was Mr. Fukuoka whom I had last seen at Saigon airport on the morning of August 20th 1945. I recalled to his mind our conversation that morning and asked him what exactly he knew at that moment, six years ago. He told me that he knew from certain messages that Netaji's plane had crashed in Taihoku and that Netaji had been seriously injured but that he was not aware then that Netaji had succumbed to his injuries. He heard about Netaji's death only some time after my plane took off. He was convinced of the truth of this story because it was corroborated by different Japanese Military officers stationed at that time in Saigon.

I also met Col. Tada, the officer who accompanied me from Saigon to Tokyo in August 1945, and asked him why he failed to take me to Taihoku in spite of his promise to do so. He explained that it was past 10 p.m. when our plane reached Taichang and it was not considered safe to proceed to Taihoku at that hour



hour, as the aerodrome there was surrounded by hillocks. They did not wish to touch Taihoku the next day because August 21 was the last day given by the Allies for the Japanese to ground all their planes in Japan and elsewhere. If Netaji had been alive at that time in Taihoku they might have taken the risk of flying to Taihoku. For the rest, he repeated his story of six years before in all essential details and told me it was no use anybody doubting the truth of the plane crash. To provide me with further authentic proof of the tragic event, he mentioned the names of two Japanese officers, Col. Nonogaki of the Japanese Air Force, and Captain Arai of the Japanese Army, as the only two Japanese survivors of the air crash who could be contacted in Tokyo itself. I met Col. Nonogaki for the first time in Tokyo, on the evening of June 5, 1951. He gave me a graphic description of the air crash. In broadline he confirmed Habib's version of six years ago. Through Col. Nonogaki's good offices I saw Captain Arai who gave me a brief eye-witness account of the crash and confirmed Netaji's death in the hospital at 9 p.m. on August 18, 1945.

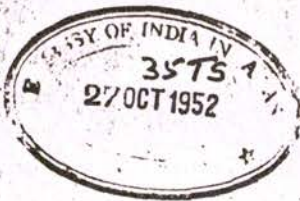
I must here mention another very important fact in this connection. When I was in Delhi in April 1951, I met Mr. Harin Shah, special representative of the 'Bharat' of Bombay. He had been to Formosa in 1948 on tour. He told me in detail about his inquiries which convinced him that the crash did take place, that Netaji died in Taihoku and his body was cremated. He showed me the photographs he had taken of the Chief of the Japanese Army Hospital where Netaji was treated, the surgeon who actually treated Netaji, the nurses who attended on him, the chief of the medical faculty who sent blood for transfusion to Netaji and the students who gave the blood for transfusion.

In conclusion I would repeat that I have not the faintest doubt in my mind that the ashes that are enshrined in the Renkoji temple in Tokyo are Netaji's.



48  
4248

सत्यमेव जयते

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
NEW DELHI.

(2)

the 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1952.

My dear Rauf,

Will you please refer to the correspondence resting with Chettur's d.o. letter No. F.26(14)/48, dated the 20th October 1951, about the INA properties taken over by our Mission in Tokyo from Ram Murthy?

2. The Prime Minister wishes to know whether the treasure or its equivalent in money can now be brought over to India. As our Treaty of Peace with Japan has come into force, this should be a comparatively easy matter.

3. We would be grateful if you would kindly make the necessary inquiries and cable your reply.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Leilamani Haidu)

Recd  
24/10  
75  
Diamond wire to

M.A. Rauf, Esq.,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo,  
Japan.

48



FILE COPY

OUTGOING

3673  
2. OCT 1952

(49)

ISSUED

(3)

C.S. No. 131

O.T.P.

Telegram TOP SECRET.  
From Indembassy Tokyo.  
To Foreign New Delhi.

DTO October 271500

.....

3-2

No. 131-G. Top Secret. RAUF to LEILAMANI NAIDU.  
Reference your Top Secret D.O. No. F.25(6)/NGO-52,  
dated 16th October.

Propose to send the stuff in our custody with  
DAMLE, Joint Secretary, Agriculture Ministry, who is  
returning to India on 7th November. Reference to  
Japanese Government NOT considered necessary and may  
involve delay. Japanese Government has so far evinced  
NO interest in the matter.

---

Amb. and FS

he.  
27-10-52

(49)



**FILE COPY**

**INCOMING**

(SD)

(4)

C.S. No. 157

O.T.P.

Telegram TOP SECRET.  
From Foreign New Delhi.  
To Indembassy Tokyo.



DTO October 301530  
DTR October 302230

IMMEDIATE

B-3

No. 27621. Top Secret. For RAUF. Your  
Top Secret telegram No. 131-G of October 27th.  
Please send authenticated list along with the stuff  
through DAMLE.

Amb and FS

30-10-52

(SD)



**FILE COPY**

**OUTGOING**

ISSUED

(5)

C.S. No. 134

O.T.P.

Telegram TOP SECRET.  
From Indembassy Tokyo.  
To Foreign New Delhi.



DTO November 081230

MOST IMMEDIATE

5-4

No. 134-G. Top Secret. From RAUF. Your  
Top Secret telegram No. 27621 of 30th October.  
DAMLE bringing stuff and copy of list by Pan American  
Airways flight No. 3 leaving 9th reaching Delhi 10th  
evening. Kindly instruct Customs authorities for  
Customs exemption.

Amb. and FS

ht.  
8-11-52

(51)



**FILE COPY**

**OUTGOING**

(52)

ISSUED

(6)

C.S. No. 136

O.T.P.

Telegram TOP SECRET.

From Indembassy Tokyo.

To Foreign New Delhi.



DTO November 081515

MOST IMMEDIATE

5-5

No. 136-G. Top Secret. Continuation my Top Secret telegram No. 134-G of today's date. If necessary please insure stuff worth Rs. 90,000 (repeat 90,000) carried in steel attache case weighing approximately 35 (repeat 35) pounds, as insurance NOT possible this end.

---

Amb. and FS

ht  
8-11-52

(52)



FILE COPY

OUTGOING

S3

ISSUED

(7)

C.S. No. 137

O.T.P.

Telegram TOP SECRET.  
From Indembassy Tokyo.  
To Foreign New Delhi.



DTG November 101000

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 137-G. Top Secret. Continuation our  
telegram No. 136-G November 8th. DAMLE arriving  
Delhi Pan American Airways flight No. 3 Tuesday 0005 hours.

Amb. and FS

10-11-52

S3



(8)

(54)

Received from the Embassy of India in  
Japan, Tokyo, (through hand of Sri H.S. Nair)  
one suit-case containing a sealed bag (weight approxi-  
mately 32 lb) for delivery to the Ministry of  
External Affairs, New Delhi.

Haneda Airport,  
Tokyo, Dated the  
9th November, 1952.

*[Handwritten signature]*

(54)



FILE COPY

INCOMING

16  
(SS)

(7)

C.S. No. 165

O.T.P.

Telegram TOP SECRET.  
From Foreign New Delhi.  
To Indembassy Tokyo.



DTO November 12 NIL  
DTR November 130945

.....

15-7 No. 27627. Top Secret. For RAUF. Your  
Telegram No. 137 November 10th. Goods arrived  
November 12th.

---

Amb. and FS

lit.  
13-11-52

(SS)



44-15/52  
By Diplomatic Bag  
D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

TO SECRET

14th November 1952

(10)

Dear Miss Naidu,

Will you please refer to correspondence ending with your Top Secret telegram No. 27627 of the 12th November regarding I.N.A. properties?

2. As you must have noticed, a copy of the list of the treasure was enclosed in the bag carried by Damle. In this connection, please refer to Chettur's Top Secret D.O. letter No. F.26(14)/48, dated the 20th October 1951, to Dutt, wherein also a copy of the list was enclosed.

b. m/c  
F.26(14)/48

3. As we had reported to you in the letter quoted above, Mr. Murty had also given us Yen 20,000 in cash. I presume you would now want us to credit this amount to our account. If so, please indicate the Head of Account.

Yours sincerely,

3-11-52 dc  
(M.A. Rauf)

Miss Leilamani Naidu,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

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TOP SECRET  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
NEW DELHI

the 15<sup>th</sup> November, 1952.

(11)

My dear Ambassador,

Will you please refer to our telegram No.27627 of the 12th November ?

2. Damle's arrival was delayed and we therefore received the case of valuables only on the 12th. We shall keep them in safe custody after weighing the packages, until it is decided what is to be done with them.

3. I would incidentally draw your attention to our telegram No.27621 of the 30th October, in which you were asked to send an authenticated list along with the goods. The list in the case bore no signature and is therefore of little use for purposes of check.

Yours sincerely,

H. Dayal

(H. Dayal)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo (Japan)

(5)

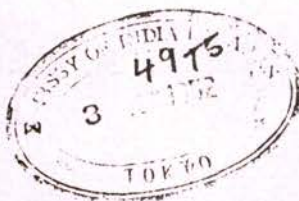




D.O.No. F.25/11/1110.

~~TOP SECRET~~  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.

20th November, 1952.



(12)

Subject: I.N.A. PROPERTIES

My dear Rauf,

Will you please refer to your

3-10

Top Secret letter D.O.No.F.5(1)N.G.O-1 of the 14th November, on the above subject? The gold sent through Mr.Damle has been safely received. The question of its final disposal is still under consideration. The Prime Minister desires that the Yen 20,000/- which Mr.Murthy handed over in cash to your Embassy as part of the I.N.A. properties be kept by you, in a safe, until further instructions. The money is not to be credited to the Embassy account.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Leilamani Naidu*

*Mml  
29/11*

*H.*

*Letter in original address to Mr. Murthy by Mr. H. Palaniappa Mr. D. J. (Leilamani Naidu) and Yen 20,000 (Twenty Thousand) M.A. Rauf, Esq., handed over to Mr. Singh. Ambassador of India in Japan, TOKYO*

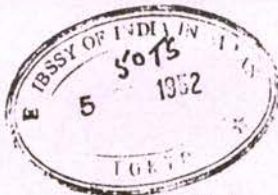
*Verdict.*

*12/2  
Received Yen 20,000, (Twenty Thousand) and the letter in question, for safekeeping. R. D. Singh 12.2.53.*

(58)

(58)





(13)

5th December, 1952.

My dear Harish

Please refer to your Top Secret D.O. letter No.F.25(4)NGO, dated the 15th November, 1952, which has crossed my D.O. letter No.F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 14th November to Miss Naidu.

2. It was explained in my letter mentioned above that a copy of the list was enclosed in Chettur's D.O. letter No.F.26(14)/48 dated the 20th October to Dutt. In view of this, I did not think it proper to reopen the packages which were sealed at the time the weighment was made and delivery taken from Murthy, so as to prepare another list. The list sent with Chettur's letter may, therefore, be utilised for the purposes of check. Another copy of the list was sent to you only for reference.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,

sd/-

H. Dayal, Esq., I.C.S.,  
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

(M.A. RAUF)

o/c  
Issued by DIB/Bry  
on 8/12/52.

(59)



(14)

WS  
5/12  
60

D192/52

No.D.5433-CJK/52.  
Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,

New Delhi, the 24<sup>th</sup> November, 1952.

To



Rev. M. Dharmeswar,  
Nippenzan Myohoji,  
Hanaokayama,  
Kumamoto, Japan.

Sir,

p-22/c

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 6th November 1952, addressed to the President of India, regarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose and to say that the ashes are already in the custody of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo.

Yours faithfully,

(V.K.Ahuja)  
Under Secretary.

.....

✓  
Copy, together with a copy of the letter replied to forwarded to the Embassy of India, Tokyo, for information.

p-22/c

By your order, etc.,

V. K. Ahuja

Under Secretary.

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To

His Excellency  
The President of India.

Your Excellency,

May I know if India government is willing to  
take any step about the ashes of Sri Subhas Chandra  
Bose now lying at Tokyo? If so please inform me so  
that I may move for them properly here.

I remain,

Your Excellency's etc.,

Sd/-xxxxxxxxxx.

Address.

Rev. M. Dharmeswar  
Nipponzan Myohoji  
Hanaokayama  
Kumamoto  
Japan.

✓  
.....

(61)



11th December 1952.

Dear Miss Naidu,

Will you please refer to the Ministry's letter No.D.5433-CJK/52, dated the 24th November, addressed to Rev. M. Dharmeswar, stating that the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose are in the custody of Indian Embassy in Tokyo?

2. I am afraid there is some misunderstanding as the ashes are still in the Renkoji Temple. Please see in this connection Mr. Chakravarti's D.O. No.25/4/NGO dated the 18th July, 1951, to Mr. Chettur saying that the ashes should remain where they are.

Yours sincerely,

(V.C. TRIVEDI)

Miss Leilamani Naidu,  
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

Despatched by Diplomatic  
Bag 12.12.52  
12.12.52

(62)





MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
NEW DELHI.

63

(16)

the 5<sup>th</sup> January, 1953.

Dear Mr. Trivedi,

Will you please refer to your D.O. No.F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 11th December 1952, to Miss Naidu, regarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose ?

2. Rev. M. Dharmeswar had asked us if India Government were willing to take any steps about the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose now lying at Tokyo. Our intention was simply to tell him that the Indian Government and our Embassy in Tokyo were aware of the existence of the ashes and had full control over their disposal even though these were kept in the Renkoji temple. In this connection please refer to Mr. Chettur's D.O. No.F.26(14)/48, dated the 1st October 1951, to Mr. Dutt.

3. To avoid any misunderstanding, however, we are writing to Rev. Dharmeswar again to clarify the position.

Yours sincerely,

V.K. Ahuja

(V.K. Ahuja)

V.C. Trivedi, Esq., I.F.S.,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo,  
JAPAN.

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(17)

25  
64

No.D.4067-NGO/52  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
Ministry of External Affairs  
---

New Delhi, the 5<sup>th</sup> January, 1953.

From

Shri V.K. Ahuja,  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

Rev. M. Dharmeswar,  
Nipponzan Myohoji,  
Hanaokayama,  
KUMAMOTO.  
JAPAN.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No.D.5433-CJK/52, dated the 24th November 1952, and to say that the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose are kept in the Renkoji temple in Tokyo under the custody of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo.

Yours faithfully,

SD/ -

(V.K. Ahuja)  
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy forwarded to the Embassy of India, Tokyo, for information.

By order, etc.,

V. K. Ahuja

(V.K. Ahuja)  
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

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~~Top Secret~~

No: F.25/4/NGO  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi, January 24, 1953

(18)



*mm*  
My dear Ambassador,

Will you please refer to Miss. Naidu's D.O. No. 5.No.12

F.25/4/NGO, dated the 20th November 1952, regarding the  
I.N.A. properties?

2. The Prime Minister has now directed that the  
Yen 20,000/- lying with you should be transferred here.  
Can you send the amount to us by bank draft? If this is  
not possible under the Japanese Government's exchange  
regulations, or for any other reason, we shall have to devise  
other means of transferring the money. One way would be for  
you to credit the amount in your official accounts and for  
a corresponding payment in rupees to be made here. But this  
should not be done unless you get clear instructions from  
the Ministry, indicating the head to which the money should  
be credited in your accounts.

*Ans. Naidu*

*H. Dayal*

(H. Dayal)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo (Japan)

(15)



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.the 17<sup>th</sup> March, 1953.

(19)

Subject: I.N.A. Treasure.

My dear Ambassador,

Will you please refer to my D.O. letter No.F.25/4/NGO, dated the 24th January 1953, regarding the transfer of Yen 20,000 now held by the Embassy ?

2. We shall be grateful for an early reply.

Yours sincerely,  
H. Dayal

(H. Dayal)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO (JAPAN)

66



(20)

24th March, 1953.

TOP SECRET

(BY DIPLOMATIC BAG)



My dear Harish,

Will you please refer to your D.O. letters No. F.25/4/NGO and No.F.25/4/NGO, of the 24th of January and 17th of March, 1953, respectively?

2. We suggest that we credit this amount of 20,000 Yens in our official accounts and a corresponding payment in Rupees may be made in Delhi. The exact amount in Rupee equivalent would be Rs.265-11-0. Please let me know the head under which this money should be credited in our accounts.

Yours sincerely,

(H.A. RAUF)

Shri H. Dayal, I.C.S.,  
Joint Secretary to the Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

(CT)



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
NEW DELHI,

सत्यमेव जयते

(21)

The 5<sup>th</sup> May 1953

My dear Ambassador,

Will you please refer to your D.O.

letter No.F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 24th

March 1953 to Shri H. Dayal ?.

2. The amount of 20,000 Yen (Rs 265/11/-)

may kindly be credited to Government and

entered in your Cash Account under the head

"Tokyo-Suspense-Miscellaneous receipts from

Indians (Adjustable in India)". The date on

which this is done and other necessary

particulars may kindly be intimated to us in

due course, when steps will be taken here to

withdraw the amount in rupees in India.

Yours sincerely,

(Devi Diyal)

Dr. H.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO (JAPAN)

12/5/53  
Please take it  
is complete.  
2. File is with  
Gph. Dept. with whom  
letter should be  
sent.  
4. Only Reg. (H)  
Gph. Dept. and Reg.  
to know of this matter

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Receipt Vr. No. Y-11

Dated, 12-5-53.

Tokyo - Suspense - Miscellaneous Receipts from  
Indians  
(Adjustable in India)

Fr.205-11-0

Being the amount referred to in  
the Ministry of External Affairs' D.O.  
No.F.25/4/NGO, dated the 5-5-53.

¥ 20,000

Yen twenty thousand only.

Sd. ( S. S. )  
Second Secretary.

Copy to Cypher Assistant

69



D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

15th May 1953

(22)



My dear *Shri. Diyal,*

*B. No. 21*

Will you please refer to your demi-official letter  
No. F.25/4/NGO of the 5th May 1953?

2. The 20,000 Yen (Rs 265/11/-) in question has been  
credited to Government and entered in our Cash Account under  
the head "Tokyo-Suspense-Miscellaneous receipts from Indians  
(Adjustable in India)".

*p. 30/2*

Yours *Sincerely,*

*SA-M.A. RAUF*  
(M.A. Rauf)

*d.*

Shri. Devi Diyal,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

*00*



Dear Sir:

I am thankful for your efforts towards the improvement of friendly relation between India and Japan.

I understood from the Mainichi Shimbun several days ago that Mr. Debnat Das, former general manager of India Independence League had requested the Government of India to start investigation into the death of Sath Chandra Bose.

In that connection, I shall tell you as far as I know. Formerly I was a soldier belonging to Japanese army flying corps, travelling to Thailand, Burma, India (Imphal, Chittagon), Malaya, Sumatra, and Java etc. I met Chandra Bose several times at Singapore Airport. Especially I have a vivid recollection of Chandra Bose and Japanese Premier Tojo reviewing the newly organized Indian troops in front of the bronze statue of the late Ruffls of Britain (the statue had been removed then). Tojo and Bose had flown there by an aeroplane Sego. Having been a duty non-commissioned officer, I translated the code of their flying to Singapore. After coming back to Japan on transfer to Gifu Air Base, I met Bose in front of the General Staff Office Building, where we saluted each other, exchanging several words, since we had known by sight each other.

Later when the War was terminated Mr. Kohno, a staff-officer at the Gifu Air Base took the same plane as Bose at Taihoku Air Field in Formosa. Immediately after the take-off, the heavy bomber crashed to the ground, killing most of the occupants. Bose was, to my great regret, killed by the accident and his ashes were taken to a temple in the suburbs of Tokyo. Since it is what Mr. Kohno told us at the Gifu Air Base after the War, I am sure that there is no mistake in it. He had burnt his face and hands then but miraculously escaped death.

More details of the death of Bose may be available from Mr. Kohno, but I regret that I have lost my note-book in which his address was kept. If you ask the Census Register Bureaus of all Prefectures in Japan stating his career, his address may be obtainable.



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72

33

I shall be happy if the above information furnished by me, rough as it is, may be of some use for investigating by your Government into the death of Chandra Bose. On the other hand, I am prepared to give further information as far as I know if am requested to. I am now working at the office of an electric railway company and I may be able to call on you taking advantage of my leave, if I am wanted by you.

Yours sincerely,

April 4, 1953.

To: His Excellency Mr. M.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India in Japan.

Sd/-

(YOSHIE NAKAMURA)  
3051, Kawatebateke, Yatsurugi-  
mura, Toba-gun, Gifu Prefecture.

72



No. /

昭和 28 年 4 月 4 日

拝啓

日一日毎に暖かい太陽がにこにこして

大使様には日夜我が日本より友好に親交を深め御無事と

き私共は深く感謝致し奉りまゝに心よりお礼申

し上げます

おと平達でありまゝ先日の毎日新聞に記事に今迄戦争

終戦（昭和二十年八月）時に貴国イートン博士故スバス、チャンドラ

ボース代々の航空事故に依る死より友情調本（調本は調本）を行ふ日

あつたことと前東アヒア、インド獨立連盟事務

総長デブナット、カス代が貴国の政府に調査とする様要請

しを致すでありましたそれに付て私共知る所を承知せしめ

私共元陸軍航空隊の軍人のありまゝ南方各地は

M. J. ...



No. 2

昭和

28年

4月

4日

只今の各国即チタイ、ビルマ、貴国ウイニパール、チンコレ  
 マニナイ、地は、マライ達、邦、（シガボル場セ、ハワカラ、飛行場  
 同市）スアトラ、ヒヤワ等々、に、戦、し、ま、す。  
 シガボールの飛行場や、広場で、何度も、サヤントノ、ボリス  
 氏を拜見、し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 特、に、時、和、士、人、斗、し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 謀、略、に、勤、務、し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 銅像がある（其の時、は、ラフルス銅像は、徹、た、し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 広場で、新、編、成、ウ、イ、ント、人、部、隊、と、関、兵、さ、し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 急、気、軒、即、ち、な、る、も、の、で、し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 あり、と、眼、前、に、浮、い、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。し、ま、す。  
 且、て、陸、軍、大、尾、で、あ、る、日、本、の、東、條、英、棧、（戦、犯、に、死、刑、さ、す）



No. 5.

昭和

8年

4月

4日

5

南旅行なる別名を用ひたる間迄にチャンドラ・ボース  
 代ウッパヒ・トリローと東條元大將は参謀本部の孤堂  
 本刻よりオニ孤堂軍司令官に對し、本枝を報(陸軍)  
 暗子も報中最高の子報(参謀)親展を以て南旅行に  
 別名秘匿名を以て南方戰線と視察する旨打電し  
 来るやありまゝに参謀本部から暗子は私(お時下より)  
 か翻訳し、一夜内にて私は直にありまゝ  
 飛行機は別名セリ、機と稱し、チャンドラ・ボース代も共  
 同乗して飛来し、一とある  
 といふ南方より最後で翌年私に相ひ命課と云つて日本に  
 帰り、岐阜飛行集団司令刻に参謀部に着任し、  
 といふ東京に参謀本部の孤堂本刻陸軍省に軍命

75







サヤ、トラス、ホム代も残念な死なれと諸君より  
昔後遺 冒は東京郊外系未だ最重保がきけり  
と承知しより

ひのから台北飛行場ひの事故の詳細は生残して  
河野元秀謀に尋ねる一書明かにわが思ひ  
残念の事には河野氏の経歴をメモしたノートと  
終戦時損失の事ありありとあり  
比方後遺の知人とも南とありありありありあり  
し、東京の又は関東地方の人ぞいそとあすから

No. 5 昭和 28 年 4 月 4 日  
各戸を附し各都道府県戸籍課に尋ねれば大い  
わかると確信しより昨午七月一日付日本全国





No. 6.

昭和 28 年 4 月 4 日

住民登録とやら  
 私にも及ぶ下り  
 近頃断片的な申上り  
 調査し  
 夫は、  
 お役と立てば  
 手紙差上り  
 其の他、  
 記憶にある限り  
 前内下  
 矢は古  
 四月四日

一層努力  
 調査  
 偉大  
 貴国  
 調査  
 本  
 下  
 遠慮

敬具

7

08



No. 7

追記

和は戦後モ鉄会社々率向る場事務并に勤務  
 といふ事ありて休暇かありき  
 迄貴大便秘迄よ年出しかあり  
 と考へてふりき

岐阜県羽島郡八針村川手切三三三

中村義泰

在米東京駐在  
 イレト田大便秘  
 大便秘、A、ラウソフ様

昭和28年 11月 14日

8079



# The Indian Association of Japan

24/10/53  
80  
843

TOKYO CENTRAL P. O. BOX 822

REF :

Tokyo, October 21, 1953

(24)



My dear Doctor Sahib,

Not on file

You will please recall your kind attention to the Association's letter of June 23, 1953, in which I, among other things, requested for a grant from the recovered treasure of Netaji to aid the students' cause here.


Then at one time I ventured to ask you if our hope of getting the kind of aid from New Delhi would be realized. You said the chance of getting any aid from this direction seemed impossible.

I reported my conversation with you along these lines to the Executive Committee of the Association. The Committee has now directed me to ~~request you to~~ have the talk confirmed by you for the Association's records. Also your confirmation will serve as an acknowledgement of receipt by you of our letter of June 23, which remains unacknowledged so far.

With assurances of my highest regards,

for The Indian Association of Japan

His Excellency  
Dr. M. A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo

  
L.R. Miglani  
Secretary.

(80)



81 81-2  
23/1/53 No. F.S. (1) 200-1  
(25)

22nd October 1953

Dear Miglaniji,

S.No. 24

Thank you for your letter of the 21st October 1953.

2. I am afraid there has been a certain amount of misunderstanding on this matter which I should like to clear up. The whole question of Netaji's "treasure" has been one in which I have tried not to interfere or express any opinion. There has been so much emotional reaction over this matter that whatever anyone says is liable to be misunderstood. The question of investigation of such treasures and ultimate disposal of them cannot be decided by me.

3. I am hoping to visit India early next year when I intend to speak to the authorities there about it. At present, it is not possible for me to go into any details or discussion.

4. I regret that I cannot remember any formal discussion with you on this subject except, perhaps, a very casual reference in a talk one night at the airport. But we talked about so many things that I cannot now recall it completely. However, if you understood me to say that getting any aid from India was impossible, then, I must correct that impression. As I have indicated, it is not possible to commit myself in ~~anyway~~ in this matter one way or another.

Kind regards,

Yours truly,

sd/-

(M.A. Rauf)

Shri. L.R. Miglani,  
Indo-American Trading Co.,  
Room No. 436, Hotel Tokyo Building,  
Marunouchi, Tokyo

(81)





D.O.No. D.5219-MG0/53

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

December 4, 1953.

(26)



My dear Rauf,

I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to the Prime Minister by the Priest of Kenkoji, a Buddhist temple in Tokyo where the ashes of the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose are enshrined. The Prime Minister desires that the priest be informed of the receipt of his letter and, on behalf of the Government of India, thanked for his guarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. He should also be told that, at the proper time, we shall send for the ashes and have them in India. But, for the present, we should like him to keep them under his safe custody and look after them.

In the priest's letter, some reference is made to his not receiving any help privately or officially. The Prime Minister would therefore like you to help him in any way you think proper, including financially in so far as any money might be required for this purpose.

Yours sincerely,

(Leilamani Naidu)

Dr. M.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO.

(82)



His Excellency,  
Dr. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru,  
The Prime Minister of India,  
New Delhi, India.

44  
83  
Kyoei Mochizuki  
130, 2-chome, Koenji,  
Suginami-ku, Tokyo,  
Japan.  
November 25, 1953.

Dear Sir,

I am the priest of Renkoji, Buddhist temple in the suburbs of Tokyo City. I have the honour to send this letter to you, guided by the soul of the late Sath Chandra Bose ji. I have been keeping the ashes of Netaji safely, and praying for the repose of his soul since September 18 in 1945. Eight years have already passed since that time. Japan was under Occupation eight years ago, during which Japanese people were living their stormy life in social confusion. Therefore, apprehensive of consequences, none would accept Netaji's ashes to keep it safely.

I, a stranger to the late Netaji, was asked to keep the ashes by people who were strangers to me including Indians of whom I have never heard since that time. I thought anyone's soul should be warmly worshipped under whatever circumstances. According to such belief as a religionist who serve the spiritual world, I have secretly been guarding Netaji's ashes at the risk of my life. I have been so watchful that even small noises at midnight startle me.

In June, 1951, Ex-Indian Ambassador to Japan, His Excellency, K.K. Chettur, invited me to his official residence. And I was officially asked to keep the ashes by him, as the representative of the Indian Government. The witness was Mr. Tamura, Chief of the Ceremony Section of the Foreign Office of Japan. So my responsibility and duties for keeping the ashes have become more important.

Frankly speaking, I must inform you that, in spite of many inconveniences and trouble I underwent in keeping the ashes, I have never received any help privately and officially. But I believe I can keep up Netaji's soul perfectly by recognizing the importance of duties assigned me and with my strong belief as a religionist.

Now Japan is not under Occupation. The peaceful relations between Japan and India have been reestablished. So, it is meaningless and pity for the late Netaji that his ashes should be kept in a temple of a foreign country, lonely and secretly, after all his vain efforts to bring about the independence of India and happiness of Asia. I think now is the time when such a significant plan as vivifies the historical achievements and sacred spirit of Netaji eternally for both Asia and mankind should be adopted.

During the latest equinox week, I dreamed a strange dream of Netaji two nights on end. The dream was enough to make me lose the peace of my mind as a religionist.

Such is the background of my taking the liberty of expressing my personal view in this letter, which I write as a religionist and a priest who is charged with such an important responsibility by the Indian Government.



4  
(24)  
I should be much obliged if you would kindly understand me, and send me, directly if possible, any suggestions you may have as to the disposal of the late Netaji's ashes.

Sincerely yours,

sd/-

Kyoei Mochizuki  
Priest of Renkoji-Temple.

True copy

Cow  
4.12.53.

(84)



2  
19/1/54

(85A)

(27) 16th January, 1954.

My dear Mr. Nishida,

Will you please refer to your D.O. letter No. D.5219-NGO/53, dated the 4th December, 1953, to the Ambassador, which contained certain instructions about Subhas Babu's ashes?

2. In the absence of the Ambassador, I opened your letter and, recently, visited Mochizuki-San at the Renkoji temple. I was accompanied by a colleague, Shri. M.S. Nair, Registrar in our General Section, who speaks Japanese fluently.

3. We thanked the priest, on behalf of the Government of India, for the care he has bestowed on these ashes; and we told him that, at a proper time, they would be sent to India. Should he require financial assistance, we would be happy to provide it; but we hoped for his agreement to continue as the guardian of the ashes for some time.

4. Though repeatedly pressed to accept financial assistance, the priest made it very clear that he had kept the ashes, voluntarily, because of his high regard for Subhas Babu, which, in itself, made it impossible for him to accept any money.

5. He then told us in a round-about-way that the guardianship of these ashes was a source of worry to him; that some of the few-score Indians who have visited the temple and seen the ashes have not behaved with due respect towards them and that he sought to have it stated officially, and publicly, by this Embassy, that the ashes were in his keeping. Finally, could we arrange to provide a receptacle, of artistic design, made preferably in India, in which the ashes would be kept? This receptacle would be on a shelf, in the temple, between two lighted candles; and visitors could make their obeisance before it. Of course, whether Buddhists (Mochizuki-San is a member of the Nichiren sect) or Shintoists, the Japanese venerate, greatly, the ashes of the dead.

6. As you know, many of our fellow-citizens living in Japan, as well as some of those at home, remain convinced either that these ashes are not those of Subhas Babu or that he is still alive. Such evidence as we have, on the relevant file, indicates that he is dead and it is likely, though not

(85A)



absolutely certain, that these ashes are his.

7. Any official statement by this Embassy of the type required by the priest would raise a storm of protest among some of our more obstinate fellow-citizens here.

8. The priest agreed to continue to look after the ashes and we were able to dissuade him from insisting on public acknowledgment which, we implied, would, of course, be given when the ashes were, finally, taken to India.

9. The ashes are, at present, kept in a cupboard in the temple and, when visitors arrive, they are taken out and placed between two candles - below a small photograph of Subhas Babu. They are kept in a small box about 9" X 6", which seems to be either tin or wood, and are covered by a white and somewhat transparent cloth which is almost gauze. This manner of viewing them is rather undignified. I would be grateful to have early instructions about the priest's request for the provision of a suitable receptacle. The points for decision are, firstly, whether we should comply with this request and, secondly, whether the receptacle should be made in India or obtained in Japan. Should it be decided to make one in India, I will consult the priest again and provide details about the sort of receptacle he wishes to have.

10. You may be interested to hear that the priest told me that about one hundred persons, including Indians and Japanese, had visited him and been shown the ashes. Certain Americans had also come, to use his own words, to "worship" the ashes. It was sad to hear that the conduct of some of our own people had been lacking in propriety.

11. The Renkoji temple is fairly large and is well looked after. I am quite convinced that Mochizuki-San does not require financial assistance to look after the ashes. He is a pleasant man of about 60 and I have little doubt that his genuine regard for Subhas Babu derives from his sincere, though metaphysical and ill-founded, belief; that Japan's Asian venture, if successful, would have been the fulfilment of a noble and humanitarian purpose.

12. I shall be grateful for instructions.

Primathi Leilamani Naidu,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI

Yours sincerely,  
Ranbir Singh  
(Ranbir Singh)





Secret

(28)

DO No.F.25/4/NGO  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi,  
the 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1954



My dear Ambassador,

Kindly refer to Ranbir Singh's d.o.  
No.F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 16th January, 1954,  
to Leilamani Naidu, regarding his talk with  
the priest of the Renkoji temple about the  
ashes of Shri Subhas Bose?

2. You had a discussion with Miss Naidu  
on this matter when you were last in Delhi  
and you had suggested that no action need  
be taken by us until we heard further from  
you. We should be grateful if you would  
kindly send us your further views as early  
as possible.

Yours sincerely,

(T.N. Kaul).

Dr.M.A. Rauf,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo

(86)



23. 6. 54.

No. F-5(1)NGO-I  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

(87)

23rd June, 1954.

(29)

My dear Kaul,

Sl. 28

Please refer to your demi-official letter No. F.25/4/NGO, dated the 15th June, 1954, regarding the ashes of Shri Subhas Bose.

2. Miss Naidu had shown me a letter received from Ranbir Singh in which it was suggested that we should donate a receptacle of appropriate material and quality to enshrine the ashes of the late Netaji. She was most anxious, in view of the opinion of the family and some others, that the Government of India should not be committed to an admission that they acknowledged the ashes to be genuine relics. I, therefore, suggested that I would try to persuade some admirers of Netaji in Rangoon to donate a casket for the purpose. On my way back to Japan, I had only a day and half at Rangoon and, therefore, could not meet a number of people I had intended to approach. However, one gentleman to whom I talked to, was not enthusiastic about the idea.

3. The priest of the Renkoji temple is anxious for a recognition of his own status as the keeper of the ashes. Opinion of Indians here is divided. Any recognition, therefore, would be a source of controversy. It would not so much matter about the Indians locally, but the opinion in Bengal refuses to accept the fact of Netaji's death and, therefore, of the genuineness of the ashes. I would, therefore, suggest that so long as we can, we should try and keep things as they are until opinion in Bengal changes to accept the fact of his death.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- *MAR* o/c  
(H. A. Rauf)

Shri T.N. Kaul,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi

(87)



(30)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



S/173/55  
14.7.55

To

Indembassy, Tokyo.

Express letter No. D.2905-FEB/55

Dated, New Delhi, the 4th July, 1955.

Copy of Starred Question No. 3047 for  
LOK SABHA by Shri S.C.SAMANTA about ashes of  
Shri Subash Candra Bose is enclosed.

Please suggest material for reply.

? Ministry have no information whatsoever.

....

Issue of the above is authorised.

*Handwritten signature*

UNDER SECRETARY.

Encl:

H/207

(88)



## QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA.

....

Starred D.No.

3047

Notice was ~~xxxx~~ received on the

18.6.55

Notice of admission to be sent out

on the

7. 9.55

Ministry to which the day has been

allotted

EXT. AFFAIRS.

The question will , if admitted, be

put down for the sitting on the

13.9.55.

....

\*SHRI S.C.SAMANTH: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that the ashes of Netaji subas Chandra Bose are lying in custody of the preist of Renkoji temple in Tokyo since September, 1945;

(b) if so, whether the Government of India will take charge of those ashes and erect a suitable memorcial in the name of Netaji;

(c) whether any attempt was made in the matter before;

(d) if so, what was the difficulty in the way?

-----



~~SECRET~~

(1)

90

EXPRESS LETTER

July 19, 1955.

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

FROM : INDEMBASSY, TOKYO

TO : FOREIGN, NEW DELHI. ATTENTION: Shri A.J. Kidwai, Dy. Secretary.

SUBJECT:- Ashes of Shri Subash Chandra Bose.

sl/30/p50-54

Reference your Express Letter No. D.2905-

FEA/55, dated 4th July, 1955, on the above

subject. Your attention in this connection is

1. Letter No. D. 1003-CJK/52, dt. 18.3.52, from M/E.A. invited to marginally noted and connected correspondence. Under the circumstances, <sup>we</sup> have no further comments to offer.
2. Letter No. D. 5433-CJK/52, dt. 24.11.52, from Min. of E.A.
3. D.O. letter No. D. 4067-NGO/52, dt. 5.1.53, from Min. of E.A., New Delhi.
4. D.O. letter No. D. 5219-NGO/53, dt. 4.12.53 from Min. of E.A., New Delhi.

-----  
Issue of the above has been authorised.

*A.K. Der*  
( A.K. Der )  
First Secretary

90



(32)

(53)

(91)

# OUTGOING

C.S. No. 71.

TELEGRAPH:  
FROM:  
TO:

C. T. T.  
SECRET.  
INDIA HOUSE, TOTTU.  
TOKYO, "NEW DELHI".

**SECRET**



U.T. N. JUL 261540.  
U.T. N. JUL 261545.

IMPORTANT

**IMPORTANT**

No. 71

Late SHUNJI CHANTHA ROSE. Chief Priest of Renkoji Buddhist Temple who has all along had custody of Ashes proposes holding for first time formally a memorial service on August eighteen. Temple authorities ask Embassy approval for this and request presence of Ambassador and others at the occasion. Please advise action desired.

{ Ambassador  
FS

**SECRET**

Seen  
kim  
ref

(91)



(133)

INCOMING

G.S. 23.

C. T. I.

SECRET



TELEGRAM:

SECRET.

FROM:

TO: 1901-1907, T.S. 10.

TO:

1901-1907, T.S. 10.

IMPORTANT

D.T.O. JUL 281230.

P.T.O. JUL 290930.

1901-1907, T.S. 10.

No. 28434

✓ 8/29  
p49/c

For Ambassador. Your No. 71  
26th July. ✓ Kindly telegraph your views and see  
LAUF's R.O. FS(1)180(1) 23rd June 1954 to LAUL.

Ambassador

FS

SECRET

90



(34)

(93)

# OUTGOING

C.S. No.73.

O. T. P.

**SECRET**

TELEGRAM:

SECRET.

FROM:

EMBASSY, TOKYO.

TO:

FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

**IMMEDIATE**

D.T.O. JUL 291630.

D.T.R. JUL 291635.

IMMEDIATE.

No.73

From Ambassador. Your telegram

81 33/  
P54/6

28434 July twentyeight Late SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

My view generally same as RAUF's. Main question is whether Government are in a position publicly to accept fact of death. If they are then there could be no objection to Embassy participating in memorial services here. It will be realised that participation in memorial services here will also involve Government in other actions which must logically follow. Whole issue seems ~~an~~ obviously tied up with repercussions at home and I feel can best be decided at policy level in India. Japanese feelings or those of community here not of much importance.

Issue.

**SECRET**

Aug 29/11

(73)



INCOMING

SECRET



(94)

O. T. P.

TELEGRAPH:

SECRET.

FROM:

FOREIGN, INDIA DEPT.

TO:

INDENTASSY, DELHI

IMMEDIATE

D.T.O. JUL 301300.  
D.T.R. JUL 310830.

IMMEDIATE

No. 28436

8/34  
p.55

Your telegram No. 73 29th July.

We think our Embassy should participate in memorial services for SURESH CHANDRA BOSE. Prime Minister stated in Parliament two years ago that in circumstances we had to accept fact of death. Therefore, there is no difficulty in our taking up this position publicly.

Ambassador

SECRET

FS

(94)



(26)



S. 204/55

BY BAG 6.8.55

(95)

No.D.3311-FEA/55.  
Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs.

Dated, New Delhi, 25 July, 55.

Subject:- Starred Question for the Lok Sabha,  
No.3047, for 13-9-55, by Shri  
Samanta regarding the ashes of Netaji  
S.C. Bose.

.....

Dear Embassy,

Please refer to our express letter

✓  
sl. 30  
p. 50-S1/2 No.D.2905-FEA/55, dated the 4th July, 1955,  
on the above subject.

The Question has since been disallowed.  
No further action, on our letter under reference  
need therefore be taken.

Yours ever,

Ministry of External Affairs.



The Embassy of India in Japan,  
T o k y o.

Encl: nil.

sps02307/  
8

(95)



SECRET

(37)

(96)

D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

August 30, 1955.

Subject:- Memorial Service - Subhas Chander Bose.

Dear Mr. Kaul,

8/35  
56/2  
N.S. 4.  
p5-10

With reference to Foreign, New Delhi telegram No. 28436 of July 30th, 1955, on the above subject, I am desirous to forward herewith for information copies of office notings which would bring Government up-to-date on the position in this behalf.

Yours sincerely,

*Handwritten signature*

( A.K.Dar )

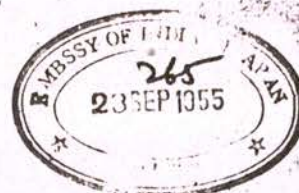
Shri T.N. Kaul, ICS,  
Joint Secretary to the  
Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*Done with  
enclosures.  
20/8.*

(96)



(38)



Dear Sir:

Please allow us to offer our congratulations for your health in spite of the hot weather.

On the 18th of August in 1945, Mr. Chandra Bose, patriot of India's Independence died an unexpected death in this foreign land. And through providence of Buddha, we have kept the ashes of the hero in our temple. However, due to various circumstances no action has been taken to honour his memory for the past ten years, and the chief priest of our Temple has been personally protecting ~~the~~ ashes.

It will not be the way to repay the deceased for his virtue to let the situation remain as it is, and our heart is aching day and night as we can hardly stand it.

After consulting with the supporters of our Temple, we have decided to hold a memorial service as stated in the following on the tenth anniversary of the death of the late Mr. Bose.

We sincerely hope that you will kindly honour us with your presence.

September 1, 1955.

Faithfully yours,

Time & Date: September 18, 1955. 3 p.m.  
(Sunday)

Place: Renkoji Temple, Suginami-ku.

(KYOEI MOCHIZUKI)  
Chief priest  
The Renkoji Temple.

(Representatives &  
Caretakers)  
The Renkohji Temple.

To:

His Excellency Mr. B.R. Sen,  
Ambassador of India in Japan.

99



謹啓 酷暑の候

尊堂愈々御健勝之段慶賀申上げます 陳者昭和二十年八月十八日インド獨立の志士チャンドラボース氏は異郷に不慮の死を遂げられ 佛縁により當寺に聖雄ボース氏の遺骨を護持して参りました爾來十年種々の事情のためその靈を慰める方法も講ぜられず住職獨りの志にて私かにこれをお守りして居ります この様な事情にありますことは決して故人の遺徳に報ゆる道ではなく一宗教人として忍び難く日夜心痛に堪えない次第であります就而故ボース氏の十週年を迎えるに當り瓊家と相はかり左記により慰靈祭を行うことになりましたので御光臨の榮を賜はり度く此段御案内申上げます 敬具

左記

日時 昭和三十年九月十八日(日) 午后三時  
場所 杉並區 蓮光寺 (都電有楽町線試験場前下車 南へ一丁右側)

昭和三十年九月一日

東京都杉並區高円寺二丁目一三〇番地

蓮光寺住職 望月 教

蓮光寺 總

世話人 一

榮代 同

インド大使

B.R. セン 様

敬具

B.R. セン 様



58

251

I would like a com-  
sely news comments  
them as published in the  
or English press, in part  
would like to see the  
news go back to the original only  
1915

(31)



99

The Mainichi, 19/9/55  
Buddhists' Ceremony for Tenth  
Anniversary of Chandra Bose

On the afternoon of Sept. 18 at the Renkoji Temple  
in Suginami ward the Buddhists' ceremony for Chandra Bose's tenth  
anniversary was held.

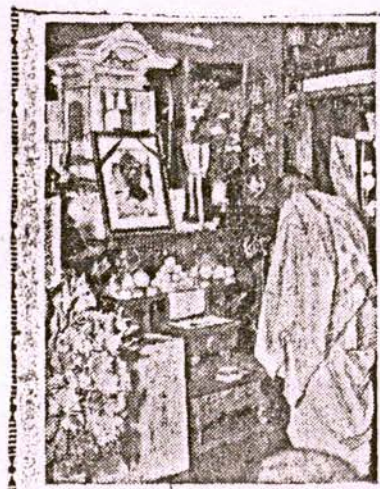
Mr. Bose died on Aug. 10, 1945 on account of the accident  
of an airplane on his way to Japan from Formosa.

His remains have been kept at the Renkoji Temple by the  
courtesy of Rev. S. Mochizuki of the temple.

Ten years have passed since Mr. Bose's death, but no  
formal proposal has come from India about taking over his  
remains, which gave sad feeling to the people concerned.

In the ceremony about 80 Indians and Japanese,  
including Rev. Pantissa, Grand Priest of Sanchi Temple in  
India, participated.

( Summary by K. Nogami )



遺骨いまだインドに帰らず  
チャンドラ・ボース十回忌法要

○戦時中インド独立の志士とい  
われながら、いまは異国の地杉並  
区内蓮光寺に眠るスバス・チャン  
ドラ・ボース氏の十回忌法要は、  
十八日午後三時から同寺でしめや  
かに行われた。  
○ボース氏は終戦の年の八月十  
○あれから十年、一部関係者の  
興衰する姿は絶えなかったがい  
まもってインド本国からの正式な  
遺骨引取りの音さたがなく、関係  
者を悲しませている。  
○この日は遺骨を引取つて十年  
目となるわけで、会場にはインド  
の聖地サンチ神廟大僧正バオティ  
ンサ師はじめ、当時氏と関係の深  
かった日印両国人約八十名が参列  
静かな静寂のうちにかつての偉人  
をしのびながら燃香する人々の  
列が延々とつづいた。  
○きのう蓮光寺での法要

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(100)

Nihon Times, 18/9/55

**Alive or Murdered?**

## Indians Seek Truth About Chandra Bose

By DAY INOSHITA  
UP, Staff Writer

A demand for a full-fledged Government investigation into the death of Indian nationalist leader Subhas Chandra Bose went up from the Indian community in Japan yesterday.

It was sparked by Japanese invitations to Indian leaders to attend a memorial service today for the Indian nationalist leader at an obscure Buddhist temple in the outskirts of Tokyo.

The outburst promised to awake anew the storm of controversy over the death of Bose, in death as in life the center of heated dispute and argument.

Japanese military authorities claimed Bose died in an airplane crash in Taiwan August 18, 1945. But a military aide, who was with him, said he did not hear of his death until afterward, did

not see Bose's body and was only given his ashes to bring back to Japan.

A treasure in gold and jewels donated by Indians all over Asia to finance the fiery Bengali leader's fight for Indian independence was reported to have been in the plane with Bose, but nothing has been seen of it since.

Many Indians still believe Bose is alive. Others believe Bose was murdered. Few accept—openly at least—the Japanese position that the ashes in a jar in the Renkoji Temple are those of the spirited nationalist.

What was the truth? No one knew. And leaders of the Indian community here claimed that no one would know until a thorough investigation had been made.

Mainichi, 18/9/55

### Japan Offers To Send Chandra Bose's Ashes

United Press

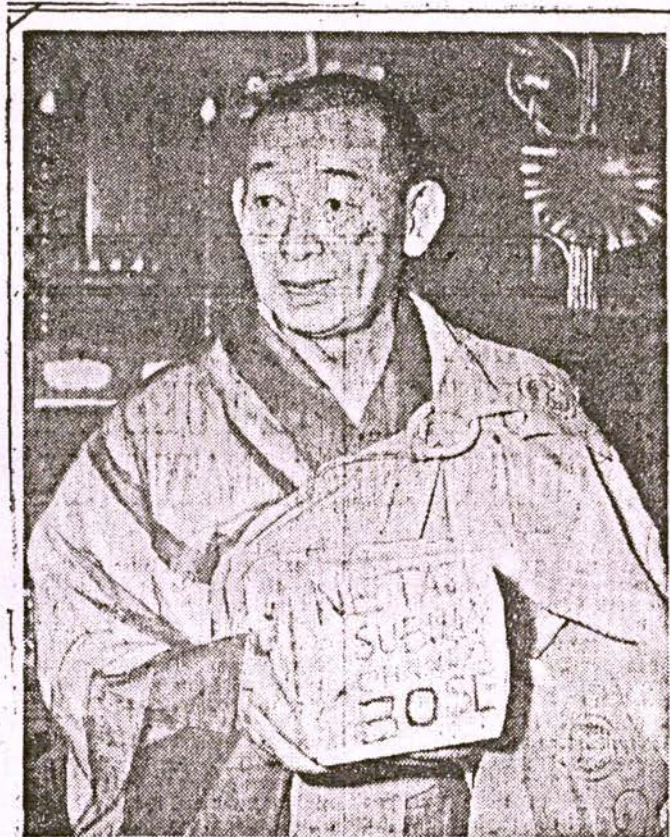
NEW DELHI, Sept. 17.—Japan has offered to send to India an urn containing the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, leader of the Indian "National Army" which fought against the Allies during the last war, it was announced today.

Informed sources said that while India would welcome the Japanese gesture there is no substantial proof that the ashes are those of Bose. All that has been established regarding his death was that he died in an air crash near Taipei. No information was ever uncovered about what happened to his body.

(100)



Asahi Evening News, 19/9/55



**MYSTERIOUS ASHES:** Head priest Mochizuki of Renkoji Temple in Nakano Ward, holds an urn containing what are believed to be the ashes of Subhas Chandra Bose, the Indian patriot who is believed to have been killed in a plane crash in Formosa a few days after Japan's surrender. The temple would like to have the ashes claimed by the Indian Government or members of the Bose family, now that more than 10 years have passed since the urn was entrusted to Renkoji. Sunday, at a ceremony in honor of the Indian leader, the priest clarified the temple's stand. Kyodo Photo

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Kyodo Photo  
MEMORIAL RITES FOR INDIAN LEADER—Mrs. Katsuko Tojo, widow of the wartime Prime Minister Hideki Tojo, prays beside an Indian resident at the Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, where the 10th anniversary of the death of the late Subhas Chandra Bose was recently observed.

## Death Substantiated

# New Testimony in Bose Case

By The United Press

Three former Japanese army officers, ranging in rank from captain to lieutenant-general, revealed yesterday significant new testimony on the disputed death of Indian Nationalist leader Subhas Chandra Bose 10 years ago.

All three declared they witnessed the death of Bose in a plane accident in Taipei on August 18, 1945, three days after the end of World War II.

One—ex-Major Iwao Takakura of the Imperial Staff Headquarters in Tokyo—also claimed that he personally delivered Bose's ashes and a fortune in gold and jewels, to an official of the Indian Independence Movement in Tokyo early the following month. The fortune belonging to the Bose movement, has since vanished.

Takakura charged that the same Indian official approached him "several times" after the war and warned him to keep silent about the treasure. He

said he did so out of fear of a war crimes prosecution.

The other two officers were Lt. Gen. Haruki Isayama, former Chief of Staff of the Japanese army forces on Formosa, and Capt. Taneyoshi Yoshima, who was director of the Military Hospital in Taipei where it is claimed Bose died.

The Kyodo News Agency produced the men after cries went up from the Indian community here this month insisting that Japanese authorities tear aside the veil of secrecy that has surrounded the death of their leader for the past decade and give an accounting of the missing treasure.

After the war, former Japanese military men said that Bose died in a plane crash in Taipei. They said his ashes were kept in the Renkoji Buddhist temple in Tokyo.

But the Indians have never quite completely accepted this. Many still insist he is alive. Others believe he is dead but think he was murdered for the treasure. Most accept his death but take the position of the Indian Government regarding his ashes.

According to the former army men quoted by Kyodo, Bose was being transported

from Singapore to Russia to escape prosecution by the Allies. A Lt. Gen. "Shidel," a Russian expert who was being transferred to the Manchuria theater, was to see that Bose got to the Soviets.

He and Shidel were in a front seat. Several suitcases containing the Indian fortune were beside Bose. Bose's aide, Captain Habibul Rahman, was in the seat behind his chief.

The two-engine plane was about 50 feet off the ground in the takeoff from Taipei airport around 1 p.m. on August 18 when it stalled and nose-dived into the ground. The fuselage split in two, and the front section was covered with flames.

Six men died in the crash. Some survivors were thrown clear. Rahman escaped with burns. Bose jumped out flaming from head to feet. He and the other injured were rushed to a hospital in a truck. It was past five when he arrived and Captain Yoshimi took over the efforts to save him.

Bose was covered with burn blisters, Yoshimi said. He held back his moans but groaned in awkward Japanese for "water, water." He died around 11:30 p.m.

(152)



INCOMING (40)

103  
C.S. No.116.

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM: SECRET. **SECRET**  
FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.  
TO: INDEMBASSY, TOKYO.



D.T.O. SEP 21 NIL.  
D.T.R. SEP 221000.

I M M E D I A T E .

No.6437

There has been reports in Newspapers here on memorial service held for SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE in Tokyo last Sunday. The temple in which it was held was not specifically named but from description it appears to be Renkoji temple. Ceremony reported to have touched off controversy among local Indians over the authenticity of Netaji's ashes and some have denounced ceremony which is reported to have been attended by only three Indians. Three former Japanese Army officials have also joined this controversy and testified to fact of Netaji's death and the authenticity of ashes. Short notice question has been asked in the Parliament. Surprisingly we have had no report from you. Last report we received from you was in DAR's letter F.5(1)NGO-I dated 30th August, 1955, in which he described memorial service held on the 18th August in Renkoji temple. This appears to be the second ceremony held in same temple. Embassy officials with our permission attended the ceremony of 18th August but reports say that boycotted last ceremony of 18th September which reported to have been attended by representative of Japan Foreign Office. Please telegraph full facts and also whether Indian Embassy boycotted 18th September memorial service.

✓  
M-37  
p 58/c

Ambassador  
FS

**SECRET**

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# OUTGOING (41)

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

G. No. 91

104

FROM INDEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO FOREIGN NEW DELHI

SECRET

No. 91

D.T.O. SEP 22 1640  
D.T.R. SEP 22 1645

From Ambassador (.)

✓ 81.40/p64-c

Your telegram 6437 September 21st (.) Second memorial service for Subhas Chandra Bose (.) Full details sent by bag today (.) Please await same (.) Briefly a second service was held by Renkoji Temple authorities on 18th September (.) Japanese Government having erroneously decided against representation at 18th August service changed their previous stand about attendance at a private memorial service in temple and attended this second service (.) Japanese Foreign Office was warned clearly that this behaviour of the temple authorities in holding a second service would arouse controversy particularly if Japanese Government were represented in any manner specially in face of their abstention from the correct memorial service of 18th August (.) We suspect that Japanese are somehow anxious for transfer of ashes and have therefore encouraged controversial publicity now (.) Our stand is that having attended the correct tenth anniversary memorial service on 18th August we should not be pressured into attending another service so soon thereafter otherwise Japanese may hold a service every month as they have hinted they well might just to accentuate controversy and show that India is defaulting in taking over the ashes (.) So far as the temple authorities are concerned they seem to be ~~is~~ looking forward to some monetary reward from us for keeping the ashes (.) Would request your clear instructions after you have seen our detailed report mentioned above (.)

SECRET  
Issue

104

( A.K.Dar )  
22. 9. 55



September 22, 1955.

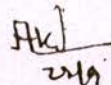
SUBJECT:- SECOND MEMORIAL SERVICE - SUBHAS CHANDER BOSE

Dear Mr. Kaul,

✓ 81.37 / p 58/c.  
Further to our letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of the 30th August, 1955, I am desirous to forward herewith an English translation of the invitation received by Ambassador Sen for attendance at a second memorial service held by the Renkoji Temple on September 18th. Copies of the office noting on the subject which give the background information about the second memorial service are also sent herewith.

2. I may add that at the time when the temple authorities were discussing with us about their plan for a memorial service they had suggested two dates either August 18th or September 18th. September 18th had been suggested by them as it would have given them sufficient time for preparation on a grand scale. This Embassy and the Chief Priest of the temple preferred the date August 18th as being the more correct date. It seems that the Chief Priest was subsequently prevailed upon by the temple management committee to hold a memorial service on September 18th despite the fact that the service had been held on August the 18th. Apart from other possible objectives the temple authorities have succeeded through this second memorial service in gaining some publicity for the temple and in securing a small sum of money from the Gaimusho.

Yours sincerely,



( A.K.Dar )

Shri T. N. Kaul, ICS,  
Joint Secretary to the  
Government of India,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.





(43)  
SECRET

EXPRESS LETTER

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

October 4, 1955.

FROM : INDEMBASSY, TOKYO

TO : FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

Subject:- MEMORIAL SERVICE - SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

Reference:- Your telegram No. 6437 dated 21st  
September, 1955.

Grateful for advice if the short notice  
question was allowed to be put and if so the  
text of the questions and answers and interpellations,  
if any.

-----  
Issue of the above has been authorised.

*A.K. Dar*  
( A.K. Dar )  
First Secretary

(106)





No.F.25/4/NGO

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

September 28, 1955.



My dear Dar,

✓ sl  
31/p.58-c  
This is to acknowledge,  
with thanks, the receipt of your  
demi-official letter No.F.5(1)NGO-1  
dated the 30th August, which is  
being examined.

Yours sincerely,

A.J. Kidwai

(A.J. Kidwai)

Shri A.K. Dar,  
Embassy of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

(10)



821  
28/9  
M. S. K. S. K.

145)

302

108

S/267/55

28.10.55

IMMEDIATE

BY BAG



No.F.29(B)-FEA/55  
Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs

NEW DELHI, THE 15th OCTOBER, 1955.

Sub: Memorial Service for Shri Subhas Chandra Bose.

Dear Embassy,

Please refer to your express letter No.F.5(1)NGO-1 dated the 4th October, 1955.

The Questions were answered in the Lok Sabha on the 29th September, 1955. A copy of the questions, together with the answers and supplementaries thereto, are forwarded herewith.

Yours ever,  
MINISTRY



15/10

The Embassy of India in Japan,  
TOKYO

\*KUMAR\*/15.10

OB

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SHORT NOTICE QUESTION NO. 13 & 14

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1955

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

QUESTION

NO. 13 (SRI KAMATE :  
(SRI RADHA RAMANI :  
(SRI S.H. DAS : Will the Prime Minister

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a memorial service was held on the 18th September, 1955 in Tokyo for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indian Ambassador to Tokyo and other members of the Indian Embassy were invited to attend the service;

(c) whether all or any of them attended; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ASHES OF NETAJI

NO. 14 DR. RAM SUBHAS SINGH: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent controversy which has arisen about the authenticity of the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which have been kept in the Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, Japan;

(b) if so, the factual information about this matter; and

(c) whether Government have approached the Government of Japan and the management of the Renkoji Temple to bring those ashes to India?

\*\*\*\*\*

ANSWER

SRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU:

13 & 14 A Memorial Service for the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was held on the 18th August, 1955, in the



Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. The Indian Embassy were invited to the Service, and several members of the Embassy attended. The Ambassador himself was not in Tokyo at the time, but the First Secretary of the Embassy, who represented him, placed a wreath on his behalf on the urn containing the ashes.

Subsequently, the Indian Embassy received an invitation for a second Memorial Service a month later, on the 18th September, in the same temple. They felt that a repetition of the ceremony so soon after the first Memorial Service would detract from the solemnity of the occasion. This view of the Embassy was conveyed to the authorities of the Renkoji Temple, and they were told that the Indian Embassy could not properly be expected to attend another Memorial Service after having done so on the 18th August which was the appropriate date.

Government have not approached the Government of Japan or the management of the Renkoji Temple to bring these ashes to India. Government have felt that in this matter, no steps should be taken without the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.



Balu  
G-4

S.N.Q.Nos. 13 & 14

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the Japanese Government contributed nearly 20,000 yen to the Memorial Service either on the 18th August or on the subsequent occasion? And did they approach or ask our Government whether they were willing to make any contribution also to this Service, and if so, what was the reaction of our Government to this request or approach of the Japanese Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think the hon. Member is right in saying that the Japanese Government contributed a sum, probably 20,000 yen, according to Japanese custom. I do not know if they approached our Embassy to contribute any money for this purpose. Normally, it is not done. It is not our custom. It was the Japanese custom, and they followed it.

Shri Kamath: The Prime Minister has said that the question with regard to the ashes, or the supposed ashes, of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is a matter for his family to decide. He has said in the last Parliament on the 9th March 1951, that personally he was not satisfied that the report presented or submitted by Mr S A Iyer, one time member of Netaji's Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind, was convincing enough, and therefore that was not the last word on the subject. May I know whether Government still hold the view that that is not the last word and that the report of Mr S A Iyer is not convincing, and whether it is because of that that Government have not taken any action in this matter with regard to the ashes? May I also know whether this matter is merely a family affair or a

(111)



(112)

national affair?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member will notice that what I have said is that the approval of the family is necessary and desirable. I do not say that it is entirely a family affair; certainly, it is a national affair also.

Hon. Members will remember that some time ago, for a considerable time, some people in this country doubted the fact of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death and challenged that. It became difficult for Government to take any action in this matter when this fact was doubted by some, and certainly not without the approval of the family.

The hon. Member has referred to a report by Mr. Iyer and to what I am reported to have said. I have absolutely no recollection of having made the remark which the hon. Member says I made.

Shri Kamath: I shall pass it on to you.

Mr. Speaker: Later.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It may be that I made the remarks in regard to certain details in that report. But I have no doubt in my mind, I did not have it then, and I have no doubt today, of the fact of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death. It may be that the circumstances may not be quite clear; it may be so.

In a matter of this kind, the only enquiry, i.e. satisfactory enquiry that can be made is by the Japanese Government. The matter is in Japan; the whole thing is there. We cannot impose ourselves or an enquiry committee on the Japanese Government. Of course, if they choose to enquire, we will very gladly co-operate and give such help as we can. But we simply cannot enquire into their territory, and more specially also, when probably all the possible witnesses are either Japanese Government officials or ~~xx~~ others

(112)



connected with that Government.

Shri Kamath: Am I to understand that Government will welcome a proposal for an Indo-Japanese commission to enquire into this matter at official level or governmental level?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have said that the question of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death is, I think, settled beyond doubt. There can be no enquiry about that. But as for the exact circumstances, possibly if there is an enquiry held, it may be that some additional facts may come to our notice. And as I said, the initiative must come from the Japanese Government in this matter. If it comes, naturally we shall gladly give them such help as we can.

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: The Prime Minister has told us he has no manner of doubt in his own mind about the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Do we take it that this is based on a definite finding by Government in regard to the finality of the information? In that case, I want to know how is it that we are not taking steps to secure the expeditious return of the ashes, and also, apart from that, to do in this country certain jobs which we owe to the memory of the dead. I ask this question because this question of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose or otherwise has been contested, and ~~xx~~ the whole matter is hanging fire for a long time, but people's emotions require to be respected on this issue of the death of a very great man. And that is why I ask the Prime Minister to tell us what steps Government intend to take - now that he is certain that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is dead - in regard to the



perpetuation of his memory in this country?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I thought that I had answered this question already.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The Prime Minister has said that Government have not approached the Japanese Government or the management of the Henkoji temple, to bring those ashes to India in the absence of the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. May I know whether Government have approached that family or sought their permission to bring those ashes to India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not recently. But reference have been made in the past.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

Shri H N Mukerjee: rose---

Mr. Speaker: He has ~~answered~~ answered the question already. I do not want to argue.

Shri H N Mukerjee: I have not got the answer. The House has not got the answer. The country has not got the answer. Let us have it.

Mr Speaker: Order, order. It is not a ~~debate~~ debate that is going on. The hon. Member will realise that he is asking for information. Even the long question ~~which should have been allowed by me~~ that he put was, really speaking, not a question which should have been allowed by me, but it is because of the emotions and sentiments that I have allowed it. Now, there is an end to it.





46/2457

(46)

D.O. No. 2483-NAG/55

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NEW DELHI.

18th October 1955.



115

My dear Ambassador,

I enclose copy of a minute recorded by the Prime Minister, in Calcutta, regarding the late Shri Subash Chandra Bose. We should be grateful if you would kindly let us know the result of your approach to the Japanese Government on the subject.

2. In addition to the three members of the Committee, I am desired to suggest that your First Secretary might be attached to the Committee for help and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

(T. N. Kaul)

Shri B. R. Sen, ICS.,  
Ex- Ambassador of India in Japan,  
T O K Y O.

I had an interview with FM today lasting 45 minutes. I explained our proposal in terms of Mr. Nehru's letter. FM said that such an enquiry committee would be a waste but he was having a formal reply after he had taken the matter to the Cabinet. He said a formal communication was in the air.

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SECRET.

## PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

I met Shri B. R. Sen, our Ambassador in Tokyo, in Calcutta this evening. I asked him to inform the Japanese Government informally that, in view of the great interest in India in regard to the circumstances of the death of Shri Subas Chandra Bose and in his ashes, it would be desirable to have some kind of an investigation in this matter so as to remove any doubts from people's minds about these circumstances. It is obvious that no such enquiry can take place without the consent, approval and cooperation of the Japanese Government. If they are agreeable, as we hope they will be, then we propose to send a team of three persons who will place themselves at the disposal of the Japanese Government and conduct an enquiry in Japan in cooperation with the Japanese Government. This is all that need be said to the Japanese Government at this stage, and we should await their reply.

2. It is our intention to request Shri Amiya Bose, son of Shri Sarat Chandra Bose, and Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary Secretary and previously of the INA, to be two members of this team. The third should be an official either from the Government of India or the West Bengal Government.

3. The enquiry should be carried out without too much fuss or publicity. It should be largely confined to the circumstances of the death and as to whether the ashes at present in a Japanese temple are Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes.

4. It is possible that questions might arise about the so-called treasure of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. Some of the Indian merchants in Japan have raised this question from time to time. I do not think we should mix up this matter with the other enquiry. Indeed, it is very difficult to enquire into this treasure, and the only people who can perhaps throw some light are the Japanese or some of the close associates of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose. I had some kind of an enquiry made in Malaya some years ago. We recovered some gold. It seemed to me then that all the moneys with the India League had vanished because they were in Japanese currency which had no value left.

5. It is possible that some treasure was with Shri Subhas Chandra Bose when he died. Some small bit of it was sent to us. It consists of burnt pieces of jewellery etc. Their value is not great. I think these pieces etc. are with the External Affairs Ministry. I doubt very much if there is the slightest hope of our tracing any other treasure. In any event, the team we send should not go into that matter. If any facts come to our notice and the Japanese Government helps, we might take this up later.

6. I told Shri B.R. Sen that if and when this team goes to Japan, our Embassy should help them in every way and should not keep aloof. Indeed, they should realise that this is an enquiry sponsored by Government.



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7. Although I have spoken to Shri B.R. Sen on this subject, a formal letter should be sent to him also. Meanwhile, Dr. B.C. Roy might be good enough to inform Shri Amiya Bose and get his reactions.

Sd/- J. Nehru)

16.10.1955

Camp: Calcutta.

(11)



(47)  
OUTGOING

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

118  
SECRET

FROM INDEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO FOREIGN NEW DELHI

NO. 107

D.T.O. NOV. 12 1230

D.P.N. NOV 12 1235

Foreign Secretary from Ambassador (.)

✓ 8/46  
pts-71/c  
Late Subhas Chandra Bose (.) Kaul's letter 2483-  
NGO/55 October 18th (.) Please inform Prime  
Minister that in accordance with his directive  
I have discussed with Foreign Minister the proposal  
to send Enquiry Committee to investigate into  
the circumstances of death and the identity of the  
ashes (.) Foreign Minister has consulted the  
Cabinet and I have been informed that Japanese  
Government accept the proposal fully and will be  
glad to cooperate in every way (.)

Awaiting further instructions (.)

\* \* \* \* \*

SECRET

*A.K.Dar*  
( A.K.Dar )  
12. 11. 55

118



Amh  
FS  
Rw  
4/11  
Spoken to (48) FSU  
WN  
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The Naigai Times, Jan. 7, 1956

India To Send Investigation Group  
To Japan For Chandra Bose's Death  
His Death By Accident Claimed As  
Faked Story By An Indian In Japan

The Indian Government decided to send an investigation group to Japan toward Jan. 20th in order to clarify the cause of death of Chandra Bose, leader of Indian "Interim" Government and Commander of Indian People's Army. This action of the Indian Government was said to be attributable to the request of Mr. A.M. Nair, Indian, president of Nair & Co. in Japan.

About the cause of death of Mr. Bose there are some rumours, but Japan announced that Mr. Bose had died of burn, resulting from an airplane accident, which took place in Formosa on Aug. 18, 1945. Besides, an urn containing the ashes, claimed to be those of Mr. Bose, has been kept at the Renkoji Temple, Suginami-ku, Tokyo, since Sept. '45.

Mr. A.M. Nair, who had served for India's independent movement, cooperating with Mr. Bose until the time of the latter's death, claimed that the ashes placed at the Renkoji Temple were false.

Last September the Japanese Government, through the Foreign Office, expressed formally its desire to send back to India the ashes of Mr. Bose kept at the Renkoji Temple, but the Indian Government did not welcome the proposal as there was almost nothing to testify to the truth of the ashes. Indian newspapers also insisted that the matter should not be decided only through the one-sided announcement of Japanese side, and besides a lot of jewels carried by Mr. Bose, which had been donated by the Indians for the independent movement, were still missing.

Mr. A.M. Nair further insisted that the cause of death of Mr. Bose claimed to be due to an airplane accident was a faked story as there were left no articles of Mr. Bose, such as his shoes, ring or wrist-watch. Besides, the jewels carried by him, valued at several ten billion yen, were missing, he said. (Continued)



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Mr. Nair added further that there were no <sup>uniformity</sup> unity of the talks made by the persons who claimed to have witnessed the plane accident in the airfield of Formosa.

Mr. Morie Takakura, formerly the staff of the Imperial Army Headquarters, revealed as follows:

~~xxxxxxxSeptxxxxthxxxxxxilxbxxxxxcontaining  
MxxxBxxxxxxandxxhixashxx~~

" It was on Sept. 7th that the ashes of Mr. Bose and two oil boxes which contained his goods reached the Imperial Army Headquarters. I received them. On 8th I handed over all of them to Mr. Murty, senior officer of India Independent League in Japan. Afterwards I was told by one of my fellow staff that the contents of his goods were gold bars and diamonds.

" At any rate it happened at such a time when some Generals committed suicide and General Teje also attempted to commit suicide. So, we might have done some mistakes in dealing with the ~~xxxx~~ above, though, I believe, we have done our best."

-----  
( Tr. K. Negami )

( 121 )



瑤娥三智



在りし日のボース氏と  
光寺にある蘭館の遺構

遺骨は真ッ赤な二セもの

死に至るインド独立運動を通じて、インド東中央区東銀原西の  
ニナール副会長兼印度人・M・ナル氏こそが国民の世論  
に勝ち、ネル印度政府を動かしたの運びと云ふ。たものだが  
これによつてネル氏死亡の真の動機とされると同時に当  
時が口で擧げていた数十億円にのぼる宝石の行方  
も解明されるものと云われ、調査記録は、日・印両国の国家  
間交渉をはらみ極めて注目される。

果を口を長くして待つてゐる。  
この圖書はボース氏がどうなつてゐるかという印度国民の世論に答えるもので、たとえボース氏が殺されたと断定されても記

鉅

英印に安撫されているがナニ  
 といふ。氏は二つの遺物は偽物であるとい  
 う。九月、日本政府は外務省を通  
 じて正式にインド政府に対して抗議

ト政府はこの事實がホースマンの  
ものたるを立証するものが二つある。  
として通貨の引取り多數迎せ  
す本邦国内各新聞も「二方的  
な月日側の拘束により直ちにこれ  
がホースマンの遺言と断定は出来な  
  
サル其れにはたしや解明の必要  
はないといつていたのを悉く無視  
なりと疑ふだけの資料がある。そ  
の方にあるとは事実だ、その内  
うら副書によつて真相相なること  
ろが、印度三億七千万の印幣に  
民は事故究を否定、この關係執

(中略)

大型ファイル

ワイドスクリーンから

歩進す

とれてゐた焦点の基がなくな

人を抑えてこれをどうするか  
ものではない。いずれにしても  
印度全国民は一日も早く商相の  
発表されるのを待っている」と  
語っている。



Translation.

THE GAIMUSHO

123

Dy No 50

3.2.56

No.24/A4

NOTE VERBALE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of India in Japan, and has the honour to enclose herewith a report, prepared by the Ministry, on the cause of death and other matters related to the late Subhas Chandra Bose for the latter's information.

Tokyo, January 31, 1956.

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(124)



第四第二四号

口 上 書

外務省は、在本邦インド大使館に敬意を表するとともに、同省で調成した故スバス・チャンドラ・ボース氏の死因等に関する報告書を御参考までに別添のとおり送付するの光栄を有する。

昭和三十一年一月三十一日

外  
務  
省

(124)



(125)

Investigation on the cause of death and

other matters of the late Subhas Chandra Bose.

Regarding the cause of death of the late Subhas Chandra Bose and articles left by him, inquiries were made of the following persons who are considered to have had some relations with the matter.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation at that time</u>
Mr. T. Hachiya	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Provisional Government of Free India.
Mr. S. Nonogaki	Lieut.-Colonel, Staff Officer, Headquarters, Air Forces in Java.
Mr. T. Yoshimi	Surgeon Captain, Head, Nanmon Branch of Taipei Army Hospital.
Mr. T. Tsuruta	Army surgeon of the above Hospital.
Mr. K. Arai	Captain, Headquarters, Tsukasa Air Corps.
Mr. M. Takakura	Lieut.-Colonel, Staff Officer, Imperial Headquarters.
Mr. M. Shibuya	Lieut.-Colonel, Staff Officer, Headquarters, Army Forces in Formosa.
Mr. T. Sakai	Lieut.-Colonel, Staff Officer, Headquarters, Army Forces in Burma.
Mr. K. Sakai	Major, Battalion Commander, Taipei Military Air Port.
Mr. M. Kinoshita	Major, Imperial Headquarters.
Mr. M. Nakamura	Captain, Taipei Military Air Port.
Mr. H. Hasegawa	Sublieutenant, Imperial Headquarters.
Mr. T. Hayashida	Sublieutenant, Headquarters, Army Forces in Formosa.



An outline of the result of the investigations is as follows:

1. Movements of Mr. Bose

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"	11 a.m.	arrived at Saigon
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Immediately after taking off, the airplane in which he rode fell to the ground, and he was wounded.

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August 22, he was cremated (at the Taipei Municipal crematorium)

August 23, his funeral ceremony was held (at the Taipei Nishi-Honganji Temple)

Mr. Bose, accompanied by Adjutant Rahman, left Saigon on August 17 on board a liaison airplane (heavy bomber, twine-engined, Type II remodelled 97), and arrived at Taipei air-port a little past noon on the next day.

The airplane, first scheduled to land at Heito air-port, Taiwan (Formosa), changed the plan on the way for flying to Taipei directly, as both the weather and engines had been found to be in good condition, and extended its flight to Taipei without any notice there beforehand.



The airplane left Taipei air-port before 2 p.m. after refueling and lunching.

At the moment when the pitch of the propellers was changed after the plane had taken off and risen about 20 metres above the ground, one petal of the three-petaled propeller of the left wing was suddenly broken, and the engine fell off. The airplane, subsequently unbalanced, crashed into ballast piles, beside the strip of the air-port, for repairing bombed holes (Reference: Annex I), and was wrapped in flames in a moment.

Immediately after the plane's fall, the passengers on board escaped from it, but, as the persons in the front deck (Reference: Annex II) were soaked with gasoline in auxiliary tanks all over their bodies, they suffered serious burns; Lieut.-General Shidei and other two men died within the plane.

Mr. Bose, wrapped up in flames, got off the plane; Adjutant Rahmin and other passengers exerted themselves to take his clothes off, but as his thick sweater for cold weather was permeated with gasoline, his whole body was seriously wounded by burns.

Mr. Bose, wholly unclothed, was sent to the Nanmon Branch of Taipei Army Hospital accompanied by Adjutant Rahmin, Staff-Officer Nonogaki, and other persons. He was diagnosed by the Head of the Hospital Yoshimi, and Military-Surgeon Tsuruta (surgical treatment was mainly done by Military-Surgeon Tsuruta, a surgical expert).

At the commencement of the treatment, Mr. Bose said that other persons might as well be treated first and he would be treated last, but the treatment was commenced with him.



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His conditions: His whole body suffered serious burns 2° and 3° (2° = dropsical swellings appear on the skin; 3° = skin is carbonized), and had a colour of oxidized silver caused from burns and sores. His face unusually swollen, but his consciousness was clear.

A considerable quantity of Ringer's solution was instantly injected; wounds and burns were treated; and after the injections of Sulfa-drugs, he was swathed from top to toe, and brought to a sick-room. (Reference: Annex III).

Mr. Bose, thinking he could not live, asked Military-Surgeon Tsuruta to attend on him all night, so Tsuruta continued to sit beside the sick-bed.

Until about 7 p.m. he kept clear consciousness, and had talks with Adjutant Rahmin, but suddenly his consciousness was lost, and his heart ceased to move. In spite of several injections of heart stimulant and artificial respiration, he could not revive.

By his side were Military-Surgeon Tsuruta, Colonel Rahmin, Interpreter Nakamura and a gendarme (as a guard) at the moment of his death. (Reference: Annex IV)

2. Disposition of his remains and articles left by him.

(1) Major Sakai, Ex-Battalion Commander of Taipei Airport, ordered 20 odd soldiers under his command and gendarmes to collect baggage of the passengers of the wrecked plane on the afternoon of August 18.

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At this search, things considered to have belonged to Mr. Bose were put into a 18-litre's petroleum can, which was sealed in the presence of the commander and gendarme on duty and brought to the Taiwan (Formosa) Army Headquarters.

(2) At the Headquarters, Lieut.-Colonel Shibuya, an aerial chief, received it and put it in a wooden box.

The box was sealed once again and kept safely, and was sent, together with Mr. Bose's remains, to Tokyo under the care of Adjutant Rahmin and Lieut.-Colonel Sakai, ex-staff officer of the Army in Burma district, who left Taipei on September 5.

(3) As Colonel Rahmin and Lieut.-Colonel Sakai were somewhat disabled due to wounds, the custody of the box was entrusted to Sublieutenant Hayashida, a fellow-traveller, on the way.

After arriving at Fukuoka, Lieut.-Colonel Sakai took charge of the transport of the box under the guard of three soldiers dispatched from the Army of the Western District.

The group went up to Tokyo by train, and on September 7, 11:00 p.m. the box was handed to Major Kinoshita, commanding officer of the week, Imperial Headquarters.

(4) The box was transferred to Lieut.-Colonel Takakura, staff-officer, Imperial Headquarters, about 8 a.m., on the following day.



(5) The remains of Mr. Bose were handed to Mr. Ayyar, and the articles left by Mr. Bose to Mr. Murti, respectively, from Lieut.-Colonel Takakura a few minutes past noon on the same day at the entrance of the Imperial Headquarters.

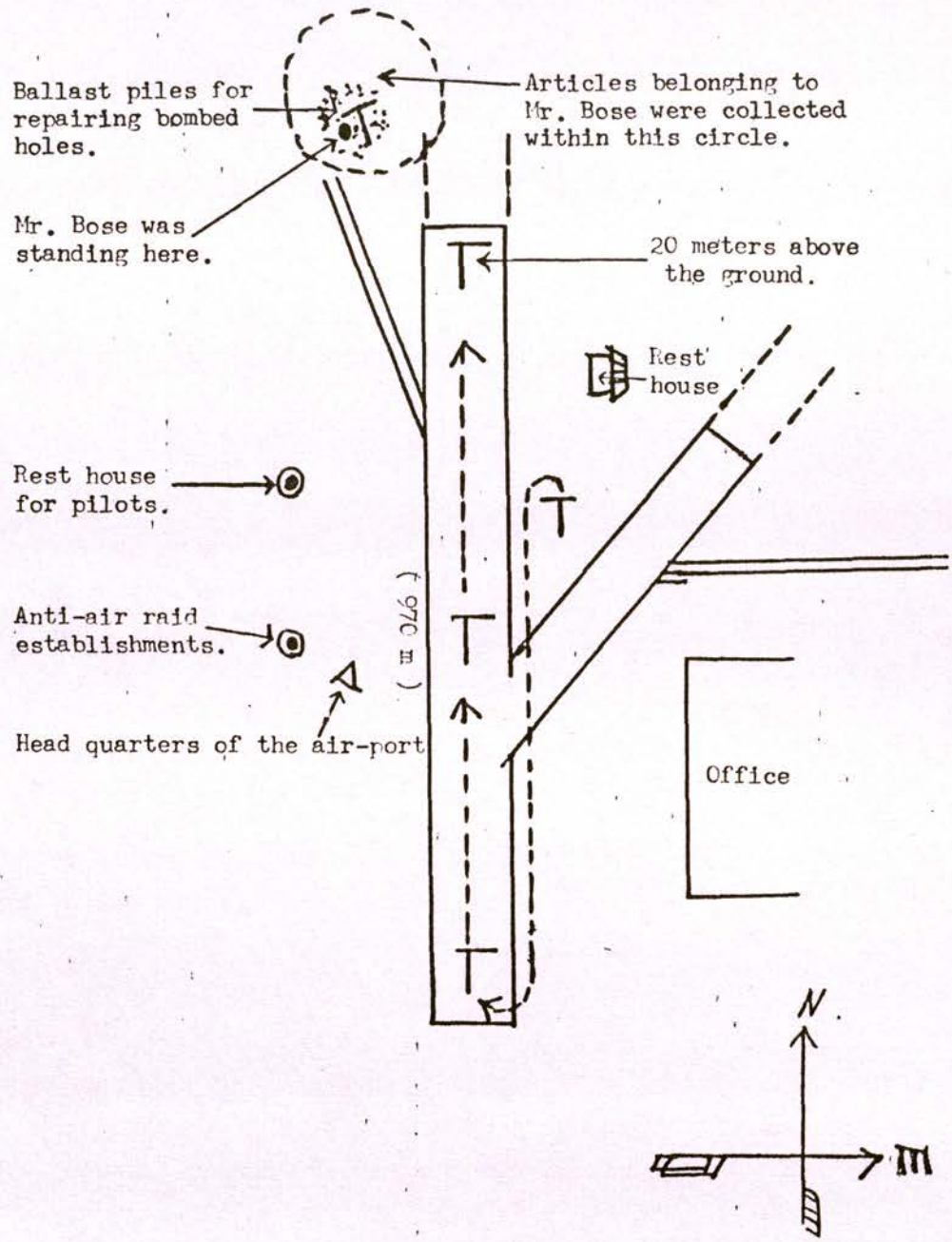
It is additionally stated that, according to the man who then commanded his subordinates at the air-port in collecting the articles, the can was 90 per cent filled, the contents of which were decoration-like metals, chain-like metals, ring-like metals and spurs, but, as those things had been burnt at the accident, none of them were clearly identified.

Other than the personnel working at the air-port at that time, no one knew anything about the contents, because the box was strictly sealed.



Sketch-map of the Air Fort.

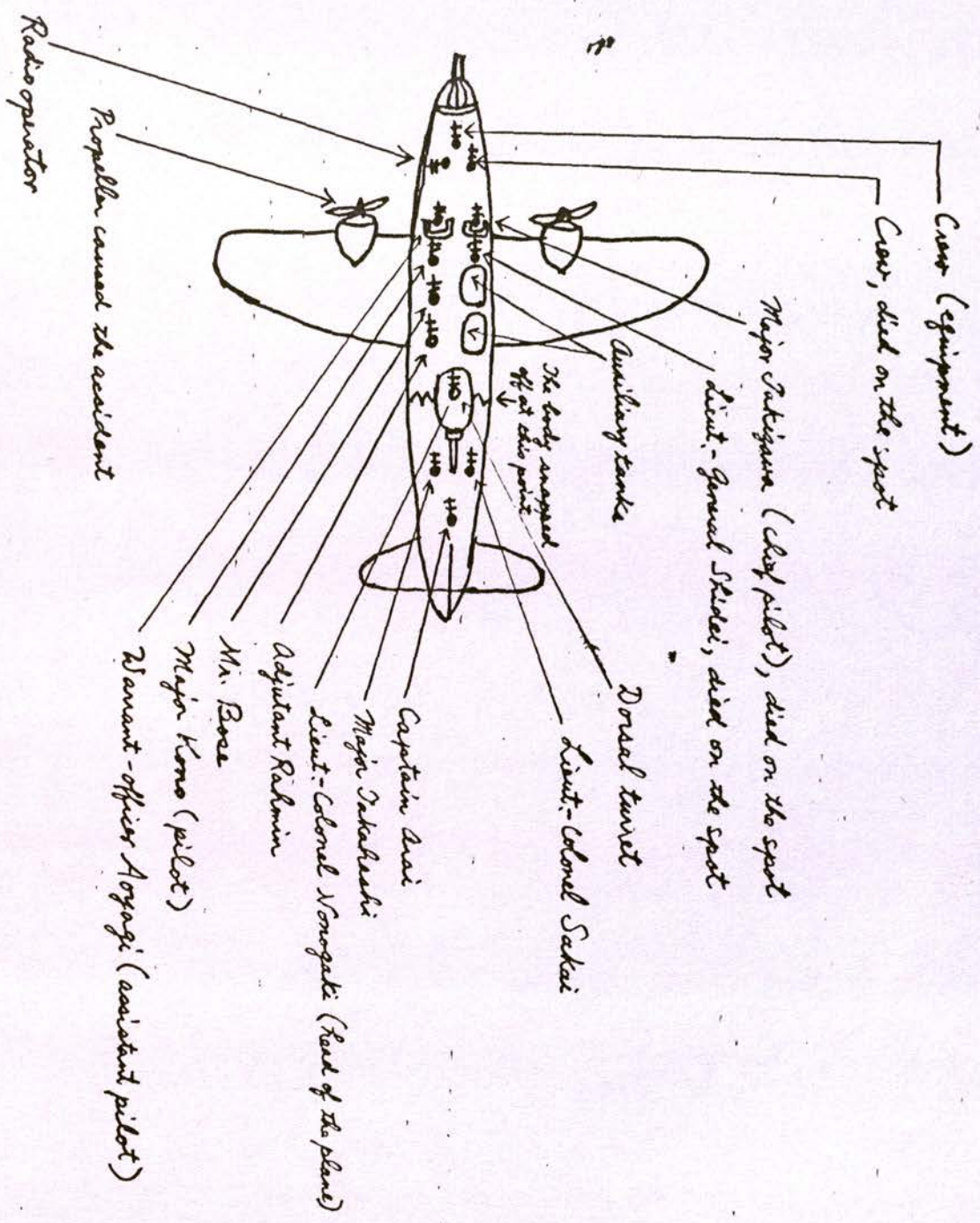
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(131)



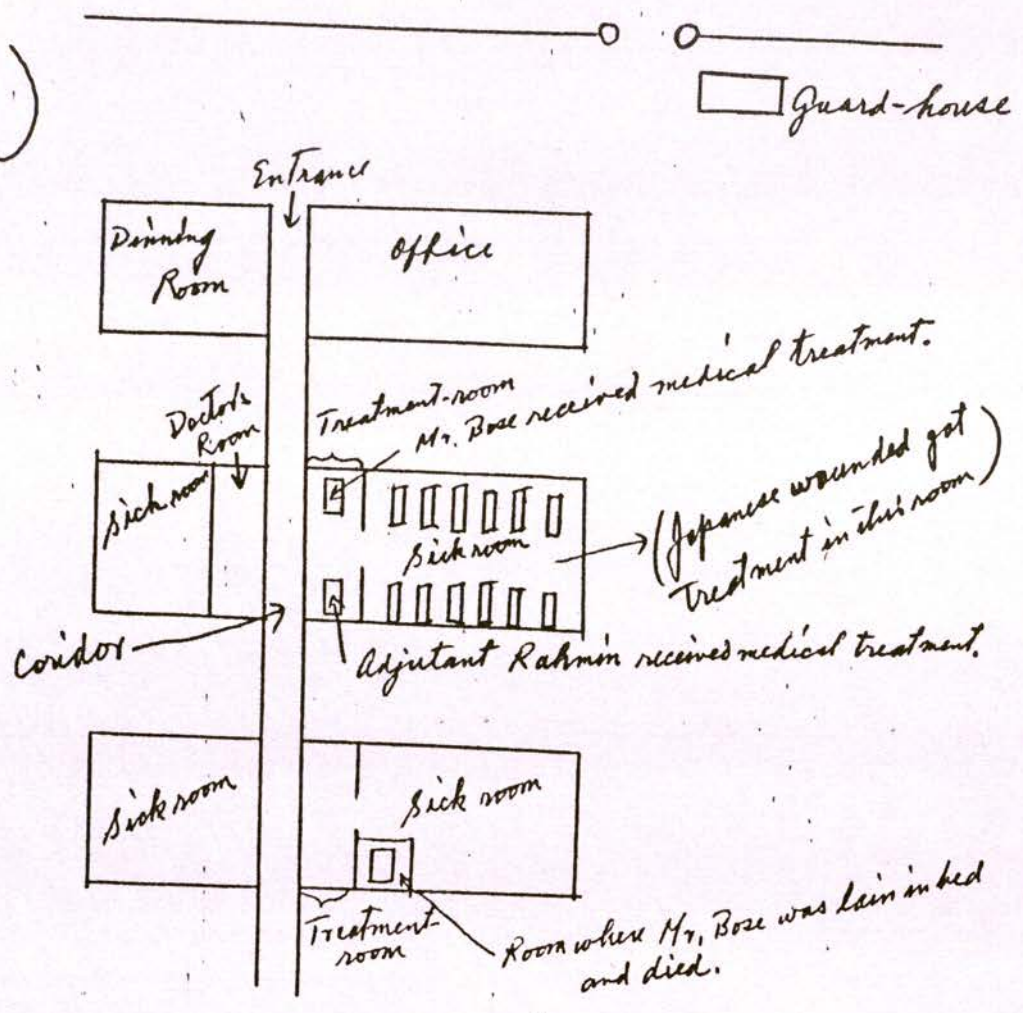
# II





Sketch of the Hammon Branch of Taipei Army Hospital

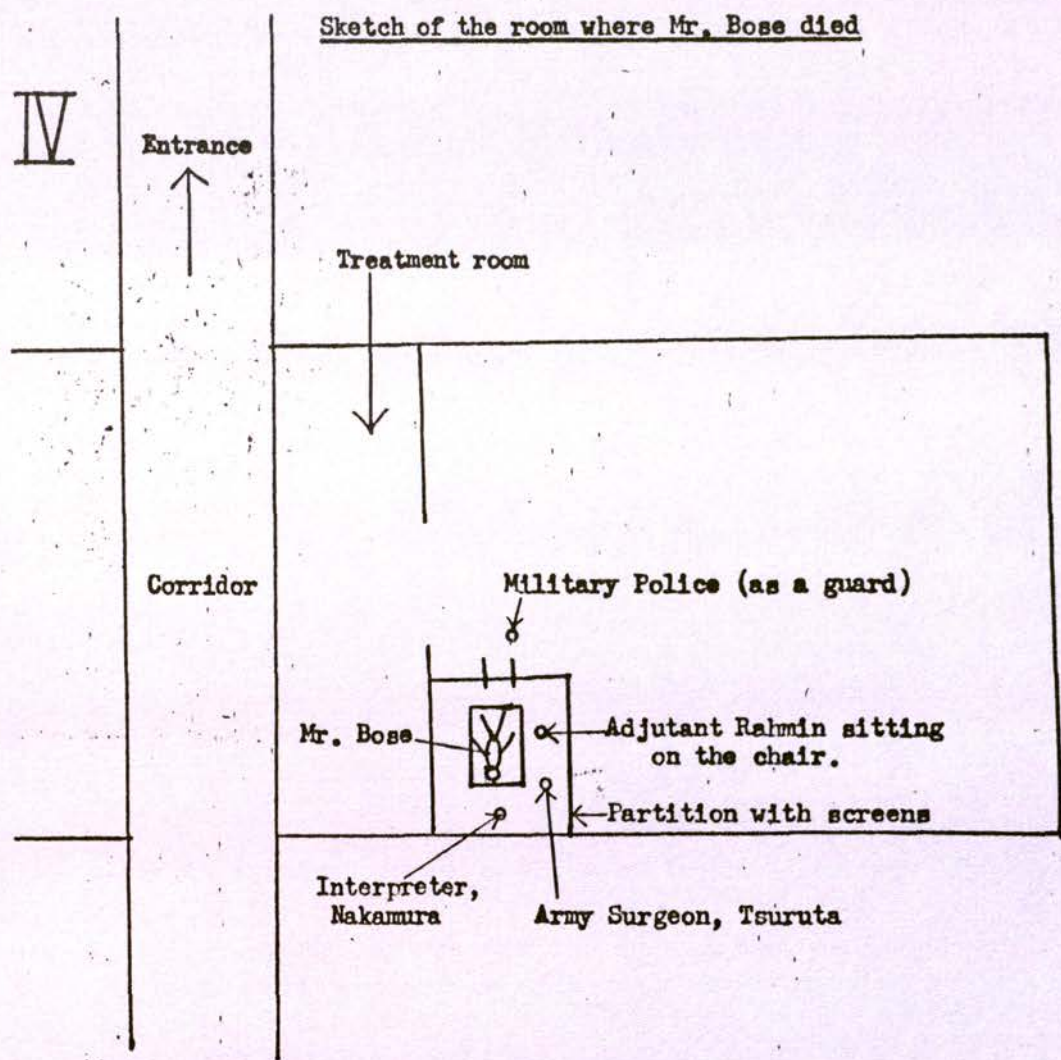
(III)



( This sketch was drawn on December 13, '45, according to the memory of Mr. Tsuruta, then - Army Surgeon of the Army Hospital. )



134



(This sketch was drawn according to the memory of Mr. Tsuruta)

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(50)

TOP SECRET

D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

February 6, 1956.

My dear Dutt,

I enclose a Note Verbale which I have received from the Gaimusho on the circumstances of the death of Subhas Chandra Bose. I understand that this material has been collected by the Gaimusho in preparation for the visit of our Investigation Committee and at this stage this material is intended only for our information at the Embassy. However, I feel that the material should also be brought to your notice for your official information. We shall place this material before the Investigation Committee when they arrive in Tokyo.

2. It will be seen that the Note clearly mentions the presence of Colonel Rahman "at the moment of his death". Annexure IV gives the sketch of the room where Subhas Bose died and where Colonel Rahman was seated at the time of his death. I am, however, told that Rahman, in a statement made in Calcutta recently, denied having seen Subhas Bose's dead body. I doubt the correctness of this report as, I believe, Prime Minister's statement in Parliament on Subhas Bose's death was based on the testimony of Rahman that he was present when Subhas Bose died. In any case, you might have this report of Rahman's statement verified. If Rahman now really denies having been present at the time of the death of Subhas Bose, then the correctness of the Japanese report on the whole matter will be open to grave doubt and criticism. In this connection, you might also consider whether the Committee should examine Rahman before they leave India.

3. I saw a press telegram the other day mentioning that the Investigation Committee will come here in March. I suggest that they might arrive here at the end of March when I shall have returned from the New Delhi Conference.

Yours sincerely,

617  
o/c  
(B. R. Sen)

Shri S. Dutt,  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Enclosures:

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Investigation on the cause of death and  
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(141)



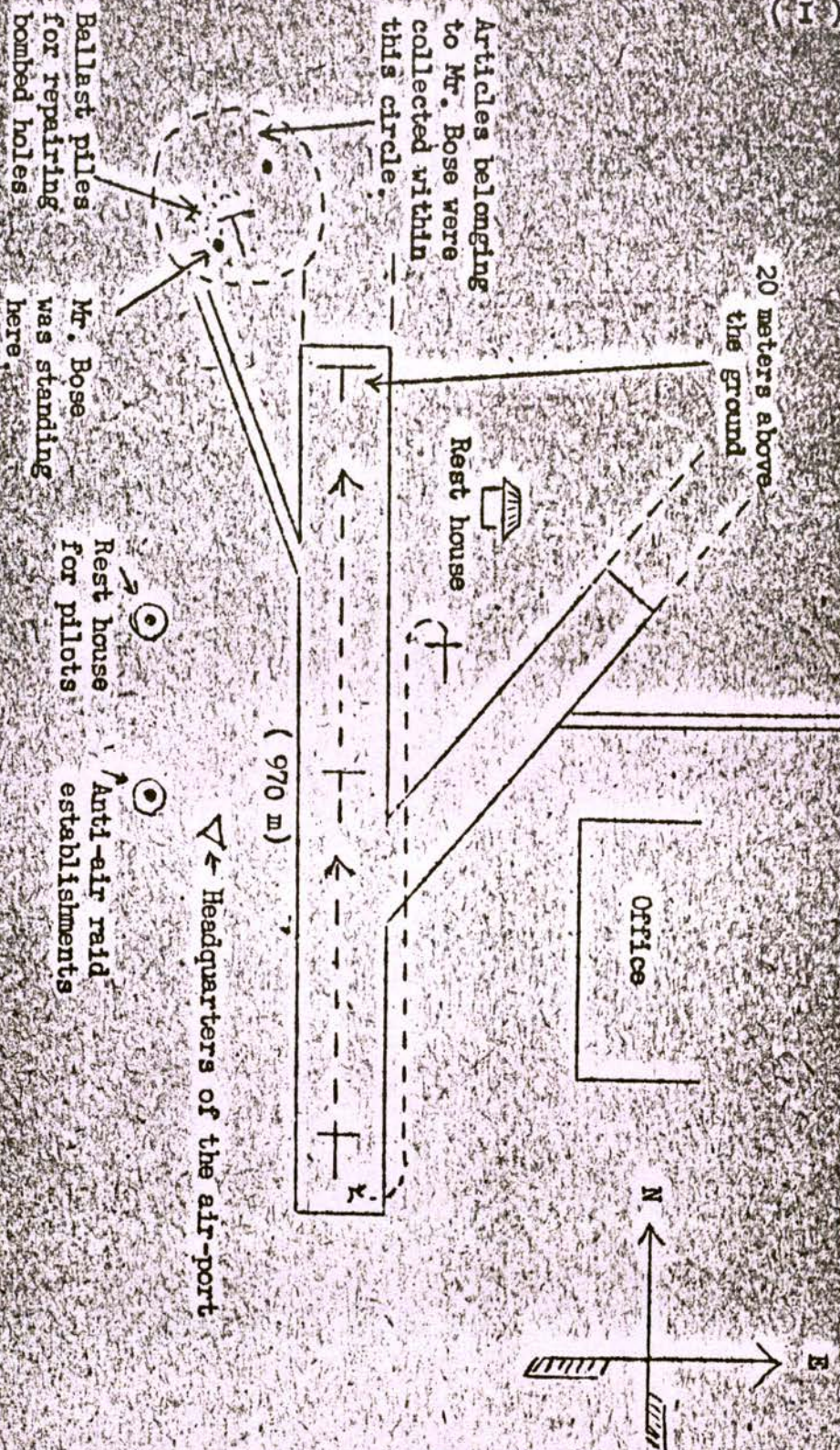
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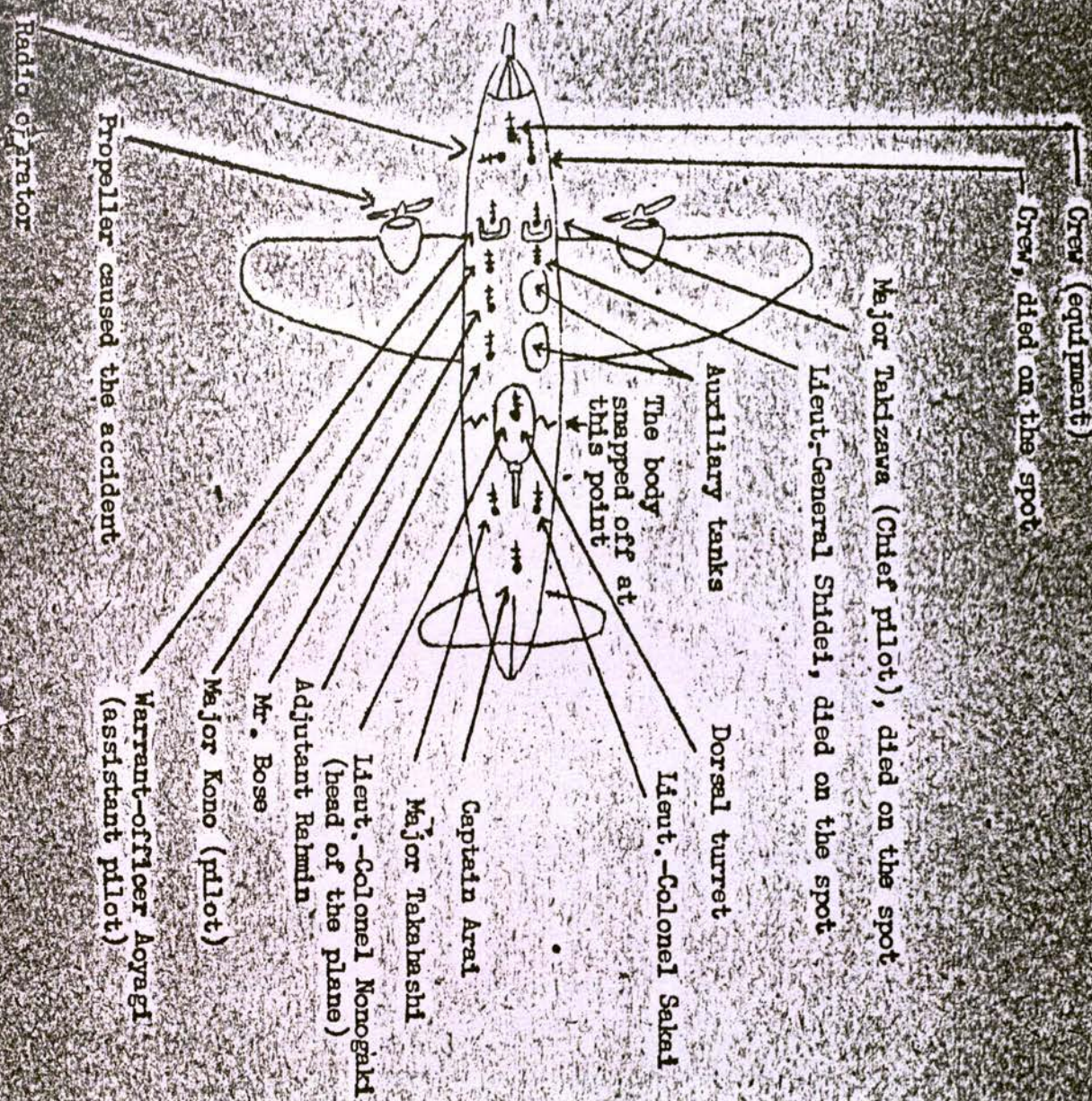
# Sketch-map of the Air Port.

( I )



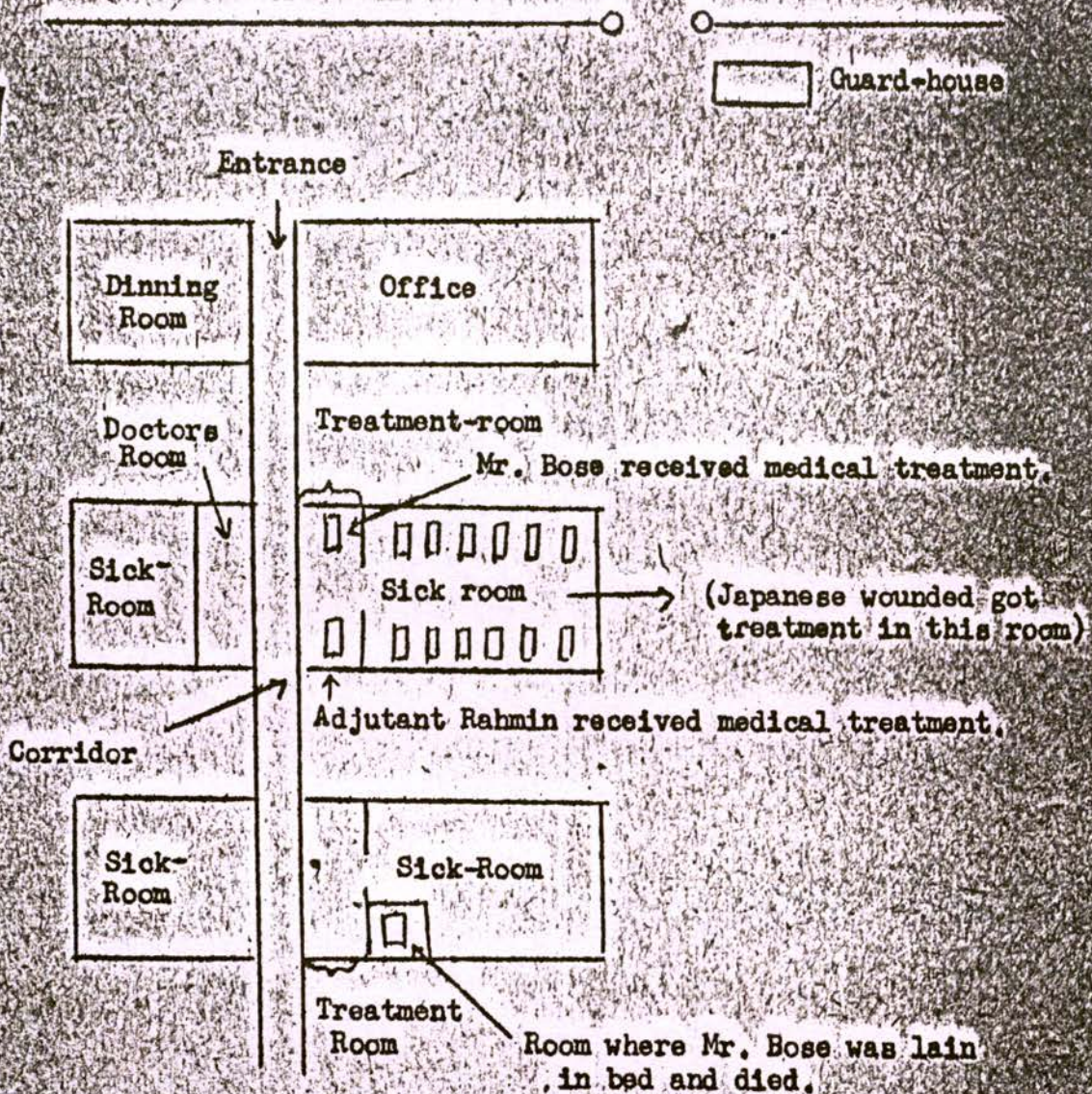


(II)





Sketch of the Nammon Branch of Taipei Army Hospital



(This sketch was drawn on December 13, 1955, according to the memory of Mr. Tsuruta, then Army Surgeon of the Army Hospital.)



(145)

Sketch of the room where Mr. Bose died

[IV]

Entrance



Treatment room

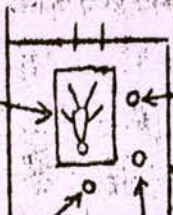


Corridor

Military Police (as a guard)



Mr. Bose



Adjutant Rahmin sitting on the chair.

Partition with screens

Interpreter,  
Nakamura

Army Surgeon, Tsuruta

(This sketch was drawn according to the memory of Mr. Tsuruta)

(146)





TOP SECRET

(147) (51)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

No.FS/154

February 11, 1956



My dear Sen,

8.50 p.m. 10/2

Handwritten: H. Sen, m, (C) 2/2, Ans 1/2

Please refer to your demi-official letter No.F.5(1)-NGO-I of February 6. We have read the Note Verbale, received from the Japanese Foreign Office, with interest. We also note that you will place the material before the Investigation Committee when it arrives in Tokyo. In the meantime we shall let the Committee have a preliminary look at this material before they leave India.

2. It does not look that the Committee will be able to leave India before early April. R.K. Mitra, who was to be a Member of the Committee, has recently joined as Chairman of the Calcutta Port Trust and will no longer be available. We are trying to get Sankar Moitra, at present Chief Commissioner, Andamans, to take his place.
3. We have noted the suggestion in paragraph 2 of your letter.

Yours sincerely,

(S. DUTT)  
Foreign Secretary.

Shri B.R. Sen,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo.

(147)



50) (52) (148) 76 13 FEB 1956  
"Mystery About Chandra Bose"

By Masaaki Tanaka, director of the Indo-Japanese Friendship Association.

(Published in the Nihon Shuho, a weekly news magazine, January 25th issue)

9 The rumour is still current in India that Subas Chandra Bose, the Indian independence movement leader who headed the Indian National Army in the World War II is still alive despite the generally accepted story that he is dead in an air crash in Taipeh Airfield on August 18, 1945. This has resulted in the despatching by the Indian Government of an inquiry mission to Japan. In these circumstances it may be helpful that the general public be enlightened on this controversial issue which is casting 'a dark shadow' on the diplomatic relation between India and Japan. - Ed.

"Don't speak about Bose"

The rumour is persistent and deep-rooted among people in India to the effect that Chandra Bose is still alive despite the generally accepted story in Japan that he was killed in an air accident in Taipeh on August 18, 1945, following close to the termination of the World War II. At the time of his death, his status known to us was Chief of State of the Provisional Government of India and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army.

9 To clarify his death the Government of India has recently decided to send to Japan a three-member inquiry mission including a younger brother of Netaji. They are reported to arrive in Japan on and around January 20. The Japanese Government is expected to give assistance to the Indian inquiry mission in regard to this matter. I presume the public opinion in India reluctant to accept the Bose death as true has at last moved the Indian Government to take this step.

One complex element in this matter is the missing jewels estimated variously in terms of billions of yen which are told to have been collected from Indian people for the Bose's chest for Indian independence movement and the whereabouts of which still remain in enigma since the death of Bose.



The jewels were reportedly contained in two suit cases which were being carried by Bose when he met the mishap. It is assumed that clarification of this missing treasure may pose one knotty problem in connection with the coming inquiry.

In the circumstances that Bose is believed still alive and he retains a wide popularity among Indians looked upon as a national hero, the result of the inquiry mission would be accepted with much sensation in India. So much so important is the forthcoming inquiry particularly in respect of its possible bearings on the relations between Japan and India, the Japanese Government can hardly remain aloof to it.

For these ten years, the Gaimusho, it seems, has remained non-committal to this issue and has avoided to touch it as a knotty issue. When Mr. Yasaburo Shimonaka, president of the Indo-Japanese Friendship Association visited India last year, he was reportedly warned by Japanese Ambassador Nishiyama not to touch the Bose question under any circumstances. Both Ambassador Nishiyama and his successor Yoshizawa reportedly refrained from making any comment on Bose when questioned about him at the press conference held following the latter's presentation of the credentials. Such an attitude of Japanese official circles, it is assumed, only served to increase suspicion about Bose's whereabouts <sup>existing</sup> among Indian people, to the detriment of good relations between the two countries.

Japanese assistance to Chandra Bose's independence movement is a well-known fact among Indians and there is little doubt as to the sincerity of Japanese <sup>shown</sup> towards the success of his movement. In this picture it is indeed deplorable to know that suspicion exists among Indians about the death of Chandra Bose.

In this situation it would be most advisable both for the Japanese Government and those who used to be connected with Bose to extend their cooperation in the work of the forthcoming

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Indian inquiry mission to furnish any information which may be helpful to them.

At this juncture I should warn the Japanese press particularly not to seek sensationalism from this issue just on the score of the missing jewels. An approach to this issue should be objective and no personal prejudice should come in the picture to complicate the issue.

Every year on January 22 the birthday of Netaji is still widely observed in India. In Calcutta, the native place of Netaji, the flag of the Indian National Army which he ~~used to~~ lead, are ~~seen~~ hoisted at every housetop and citizens parade in the streets carrying placards with enlarged photos of Chandra Bose, shouting "Jai Netaji ki". Even children and women participate in the celebrations putting on their Sunday clothes. The whole city joins to celebrate the <sup>valuable</sup> birthday of their most beloved leader with all pomp and fanfares. When the time traditionally believed <sup>to be</sup> as the moment of his birth comes, the whole city resounds in a chorus of "Long Live Netaji."

Those in India who believe that Bose is still alive are found not only among those illiterate masses but also among leading journalists and intellectuals. For instance, N.D. Mujumdar, a former Minister of Bengal State, once wrote in the Hindu that he has evidence which tells Bose is alive. Commentator Mohit Mitra said that Bose is alive somewhere just for the sake of the people he loves. V.H. Kamath said, "I have never seen such a great leader as Netaji who enjoyed so much affection among the Indian people,"

"He is now out of our sight but I have no doubt that he is still alive somewhere." S. Harekrushna Mehab even went so far as to say, "We strongly protest those who accept his death as a fait-accompli. We observe the Netaji's birthday in a big manner by way of our protest to such a belief."



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Ten years after the end of the World War II respect for Chandra Bose is still high among Indian masses. The popularity of Bose ~~existing~~ in India was attested by two Diet members, D. Takaoka and S. Katsumata who visited India last year. They said whenever they referred to Chandra Bose in their public speeches in India, the audience reacted with a thunderous applause. The Japanese Diet members were puzzled when they were asked so many questions about Bose by the people who still believe Bose is alive. It is even said that a Japanese visitor was beaten up by infuriated Bengalese youths when he casually told them Bose is already dead.

Three Reasons why Indians Believe that Bose is still alive

Regarding the undying belief among Indian people that Bose is alive, we may think of three background reasons.

The first is that the circumstances commonly given as relating to his death and the burrial of his ashes at a temple in Tokyo (Renkoji Temple), still fail to convince many of Indians due to some ambiguities. An M. Nair an Indian resident in Tokyo is one of those who are sceptical about his death story. He points that stories given as eye-witnessess' accounts are not identical. It is thought strange that Col. Habi-Brahman, Bose's aide, boarding in the same plane with Bose sustained only minor injuries on his hands. It is also said that he did not <sup>(while he could do so by</sup> try to identify the face of the burned body of Bose removing the white sheet which covered the body. His activities after returning home invited some suspicions. It is also said that he did not show the body of Bose to Deputy Commander Ayres who came to Taipeh on the following day of the accident. And it was also felt strange that no evidence of Bose's personal properties believedly existed was preserved.

According to <sup>the</sup> generally circulated story, the ashes and the jewels were passed on in the following manner. The ashes as well as the suit cases containing jewel<sup>y</sup> handed over to Major Kinoshita of the General Headquarters by Lt. Col. Sakai and

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Lieut. Hayashida who flew to Japan. These were again passed on to Lt. Col. Morio Takakura, chief of the 8th Section, 2nd Department, General Headquarters. It was September 7. On the following day or September 8, 1945, that these were personally handed over to Murti and two other Indians. Murti was the leader of the Tokyo Chapter of the Indian Independence League in Japan ~~and~~ at that time. But trouble is that there is no material evidence to show this and no receipts to confirm the dates of deliveries.

Murti brothers later bought two sedans and were seen riding about in them, seemingly leading quite a luxurious life. Later they were caught for illegal dealings in U.S. dollars. They are now back in India. In order to probe into the missing jewels, interrogation of Murti would be absolutely required. In this connexion Lt. Col. Takakura admits, "We thought we had taken <sup>the</sup> ~~best~~ <sup>possible</sup> measures ~~as~~ in our power in those turbulent days following the suicides <sup>of</sup> one by one of Army leaders, but since things have now turned out like this, it may be said that we should have been ~~even~~ more careful." (Nippon Times, Jan. 8) There exist no photographic records, receipts or any other material evidences regarding these circumstances.

Bose makes Nehru Busy

The second reason why the "Bose-alive" story is so persistent is ascribed to the deep respect for Bose among Indians. For them, Bose is a demi-God. His spectacular exodus from India to Berlin and then his dramatic trip from Berlin to Tokyo in the World War II and his superior leadership of the Indian Independence Army up against the Anglo-Indian troops on the Burmese front firmly caught the minds of Indian masses so strongly that they have become to look upon him as a savior of their nation. ~~they expect to appear~~ <sup>Bose has before them when</sup> any critical moment of the country comes.

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The third reason is related with the Indian Communist Party. The Communists in an attempt to undermine the strong popularity of Nehru by hook and crook may have strived to exploit the popularity of Chandra Bose and fanned up the popular rumour about Bose.

The landslide victory of a young Communist leader in the Calcutta by-election last year defeating Dr. R.B. Pal, the celebrated jurist of international fame, seemed to have resulted because of a story that Dr. Pal compromised with Nehru in pre-election promises. In Calcutta, the native place of Bose, the Communist propaganda that Dr. Pal ~~with Nehru~~ betrayed them in shaking hands with Nehru worked successfully to upset the voters support in favour of the young Communist leader.

Meantime it may be assumed that there exists dissatisfaction among the former men and officers of the Indian National Army with the "cold treatment" they are receiving under the Congress regime and these people may be naturally hoping to see Bose again.

Under these circumstances, it may be possible to think that Nehru thought it inadvisable to let the thing go as it stands and has decided to send an inquiry mission to Japan.

#### The Air Crash in Taipei Airfield

Summing up ~~up~~ press reports, the circumstances of the accidental death of Bose stand as follows:

It was August 17, 1945, two days after the Emperor's broadcast announcing capitulation of Japan that Chandra Bose accompanied by his aide Col. Habi-Brahman left the Saigon airport. The plane was a transport of KG-III type <sup>converted</sup> ~~remodelled~~ from a 97-2 Army heavy bomber. Boarding the plane were Lt. Gen. Tsunamasa Yotsuido, who was on transfer from Burma to Manchuria as deputy-chief of staff of the Kwantung Army, Lt. Col. Nonogaki (pilot), Lt. Col. Sakai, Major Takahashi, Major Kono, Major Takizawa, Lieutenant Arai, Warrant Officer Aoyagi

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(co-pilot) and four other members of the crew.

The plane left Turan (Cochin-China) on the following dawn heading for Taipeh. The plane reached Taipeh airfield at noon. They took lunch there while the plane was being refuelled. At 2 P.M. it started for the Gannosu airfield in Kyushu. The plane taxied the runway without hitch and took to the air. In the matter of 20 seconds or so, the plane lost balance and suddenly nose-dived ~~into~~ the ground. The propellor on the left wing had ~~been~~ gone. The plane was instantly entrapped in flames as leaking fuel caught fire. Lt. Gen. Yotsuide, Major Takizawa and a non-commissioned officer were killed instantly. Others sustaining burning, however, managed to crawl out of the wreckage.

Bose suffered serious burning all over his body. He was taken to the Army Hospital by an ambulance for first aid treatment. About 30 surgeons attended the injured members. All possible medical treatment<sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ administered.

Surgeon Captain Yoshimi treated Bose whose hairs were all burnt. His face was swollen with burns. There was not a single spot on this body which was left unburned. His ~~clothes~~ <sup>clothes</sup> were of course burnt to shreds. It was diagnosed as third degree burning. So there was little hope for his survival. Captain Yoshimi announced that Bose might not live beyond that midnight. ~~Habib-Rahman~~ and Lt. Col. Honogami were informed about the condition of Bose. Blood transfusions, saline and camphor injections, and all possible medical treatments were administered in an desperate effort to save the life of the great Indian leader against the hopeless chance of his survival. It was 40 minutes past that midnight that the heart of the great man ceased to beat, drawing a curtain on the dramatic life of the beloved leader of India.

\*\*\*\*\*

W. Kavan

(154)



ASAHI EVENING 23/2/56

## Bose Claimed Alive in China

AFP

CALCUTTA, Feb. 23—Subhas Chandra Bose, India's wartime anti-allied leader, is alive and is forming an "Asian liberation army" wing in Sinkiang Province under the protection of the Chinese Communist authorities, one of Mr. Bose's lieutenants stated in Calcutta yesterday.

Mr. Bose's lieutenant, M. L. Thevar, deputy chairman of the "Forward Block Party" (founded by Mr. Bose) said he had met Mr. Bose during a visit to Burma.

He said the China-formed "Asian Liberation Army" was intended to free India from "Anglo-American domination." He said he had been in contact with Mr. Bose for the last seven years.





D.O.No.F.30(26)-FEA/FF.



IMMEDIATE (156)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

Dated the 19th March '56.

(52)

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Dear Mr. Dar,

A Committee of three persons appointed by the Government of India to investigate into the circumstances leading to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose will be visiting Japan next month. The Committee will consist of Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport and formerly Major-General in the Indian National Army, as Chairman, Mr. Suresh Chandra Bose, brother of Netaji Bose and Mr. S.N. Meitra, I.C.S., Chief Commissioner, Andamans, as members.

The Committee will start functioning in Delhi with effect from the 29th March, 1956, and after a brief stay for a week or so in Delhi will proceed to Bangkok first, towards the end of the first week or beginning of the second week of April. From there it will go to Saigon and then reach Tokyo for completion of its investigation. We shall let you know the ~~estimated~~ date of their arrival there as soon as we are aware of it.

We shall be grateful if you will kindly make necessary arrangements for their accommodation at Tokyo and extend all assistance and facilities on their arrival there.

This letter is intended to give you only an advance intimation about their impending visit and further communication regarding their programme will follow as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

*R.S. Chavan*

(R.S. Chavan)

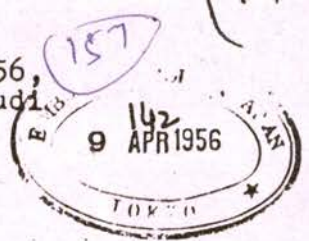
Mr. A.I. Dar, I.F.S.,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

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(156)



(51)  
Copy of letter dated 2nd April, 1956,  
from Shri Suresh C. Bose, 62, Pataudi  
House, New Delhi, addressed to the  
Prime Minister.



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As a member of of "Netaji Enquiry Committee", I think the following items mentioned in brief among others need clarification:-

1. Terms of Reference. The External Affairs Department in their letter dated 3.2.56 to me have mentioned "--- circumstances of the disappearance of---" whereas the same department in their letter dated 16-3-56 to me have stated "--- circumstanfes of the death of ---".

2. As regards the manner in which the enquiry would be made, I asked Shri Shah Nawaz Khan yesterday as to whether the enquiry should be open to the public or to the press or to both or whether it would be held in Camera. He replied that all Government of India enquiries are done secretly and only reports are made public.

3. Whether the itinerary of the "Enquiry Committee" will be decided by any party other than the Committee itself or by the Committee alone and which may be added, omitted or altered in accordance with the requirements suggested as the investigation proceeds.

4. Whether with regard to witnesses, documents, papers etc. necessary to be examined or inspected, the procedure mentioned in item No. 3 above will be followed or not.

5. With due respect to Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, I am of opinion that as this enquiry is more or less of a judicial nature and not appertaining to military matters, his position in the Committee as Chairman is not appropriate and because he does not appear to be in possession of much additional information, which would be helpful to the Committee regarding the places to be visited by us or regarding the subject matter of this enquiry.

6. It is considered important by me on behalf of

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the Committee to know whether the name Netaji Subhas Chandra was and still is in the list of War Criminals drawn up by America and her allies. If his name still exists and if they request the Government of India to hand him over to them, if he be found on Indian soil, for being tried as a War Criminal, whether this Government will have the option of handing or not handing him over to them for the aforesaid purpose.

7. As I considered this Enquiry to be very important one and as it will be of great concern to millions of persons throughout the world, it requires mature deliberation and sound judgement. As such, it is my humble opinion that Dr. Radha Binode Pal be requested and persuaded to join the Committee & to lead it.

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The terms of reference of the Committee are to enquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident and subsequent developments connected therewith.

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(160)  
INCOMING

(167)  
C.S. No.47.

TELEGRAM: RESTRICTED. REC  
FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.  
TO: EMBASSY, TOKYO.

150  
13 APR 1943

D.T.O. APR 12 NIL.  
D.T.R. APR 13 0930.

APR 11 1943  
IMMEDIATE.

No.29317

Netaji Enquiry Committee would require services of one india based Stenographer at Tokyo. Request one Embassy Stenographer may be released and local man employed for Embassy work. Telegraph concurrence and cost of local recruit for one month.

Ambassador  
FS

REC

(160)



(56)

(16)

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OUTGOING

C.S. No.35.

TELEGRAM: RESTRICTED.

**RESTRICTED**

FROM: EMBASSY, TOKYO.

TO: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

P.T.O. APR 161120.  
P.T.R. APR 161125.



I M M E D I A T E .

No.35

81 55  
P.107

Your telegram No.29317 12th.

India based stenographer for Netaji Enquiry Committee. Have enquired and find that owing language difficulty suitable English knowing stenographers not generally available locally. In any case foreign nationals could not be entrusted with this Embassy work. Strongly recommend Committee bringing own stenographer.

Ambassador  
FS

**RESTRICTED**

(16)



(31)  
INCOMING

(104)  
C.S. No. 49.

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM:

SECRET.

FROM:

FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

TO:

EMBASSY, TOKYO.



D.T.O. APR 161715.

D.T.R. APR 170930.

IMMEDIATE.

No. 28447

Addressed Tokyo Embassy Bangkok  
Congenia Saigon.

NETAJI SUBHAS BOSE Enquiry Committee  
led by Shri. SHAINAWAZ KHAN with Shri. S.C. BOSE  
and S.N. MAITRA as members accompanied by  
Shri. R. DAYAL Personal Assistant arriving Bangkok  
27th April at 3 30 a.m. (local time) by flight  
No. AI308. Departure Bangkok 30th April 1105 a.m.  
by Flight No. AF230. Arrival Saigon 1.10 p.m.  
30th April. Departure Saigon 4th May 8 45 a.m. by  
Flight No. AF 170. Arrival Tokyo 1035 p.m. same  
day. Proposed stay in Tokyo about one month.

2. Kindly book suitable accommodation  
for Chairman members and Personal Assistant.  
Embassy may kindly lend its staff car for use of  
members if available. Otherwise inexpensive alternative  
arrangements may be made.

3. Grateful if you could also lend one  
India-based stenographer and trusted interpreter  
during examination of witnesses.

4. List of witnesses to be examined will  
be telegraphed shortly.

5. Congenia Saigon kindly arrange visit  
to Touraine and back on 1st or 3rd May.

Ambassador

FS

SECRET

(162)



1581  
OUT GOING

(163)

110

C.S. No. 37

O.T.P.

TELEGRAM:

SECRET.

FROM:

INDEMBASSY, TOKYO.

TO:

FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.



P.T.O. APR 171240.  
P.T.R. APR 171245.

I M M E D I A T E .

No. 37

sl. 51 / p. 108

✓ sl. 56 / p. 108

Your telegram No. 28447 April 16th paragraph 3. For reasons already clarified in our telegram No. 35 April 16th Netaji Enquiry Committee should bring full complement of stenographers from India. RAHMAN the only Indian in this Embassy who can work as Interpreter will be made available to Committee.

Ambassador  
FS

(163)



1511  
152  
NAT. 2(5) FEA/86  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



New Delhi (3), the 11th April 1956.

Subject:- Committee to enquire into the Circumstances concerning the disappearance of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose.

--- --

Dear Embassy,

Forwarded herewith please find copies of papers noted on the margin for your information.

1. \*Question No. 670 in LOK SABHA answered on 13-3-1956, along with the Answer.

2. Supplementary Question with answers to the above question.

Yours ever,  
Ministry.

The Embassy of India in  
Japan, TOKYO.



G.F. 7/4

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STARRED QUESTION NO. 670.

LOK SABHA.

STARRED QUESTION NO. 670

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH MARCH, 1956.

COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE DEATH OF  
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

QUESTION

\*No.670 SHRI KAMATH: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 13 on the 16th February, 1956 and state:

- (a) whether the composition of the Committee has been finalised;
- (b) if so, the names of the Members; and
- (c) when the Committee is expected to proceed on its mission?

\*\*\*\*\*

ANSWER

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA.

D.M.

(a)(b)&(c). Yes. The Committee is expected to start work about the beginning of April. Its members are:

1. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,  
Parliamentary Secretary to  
the Minister for Railways.
2. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose,  
elder brother of Shri  
Subhash Chandra Bose, and
3. Shri S.N. Maitra, I.C.S.,  
Chief Commissioner,  
Andamans.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*TANDON\*1003.

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IS  
E-4

Q 670

Shri Kamath: Has the attention of Government been drawn to a suggestion made in the Bengal Press that Dr. Radha Bined Pal, former member of the International Military Tribunal in Tokyo, should have been invited or should be invited by Government to serve on this Committee?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes. We saw that. Dr. Radha Bined Pal is a very eminent person. But in this particular instance, it was thought that perhaps it would not be suitable for him to go there for this purpose. Apart from this, I believe that he is likely to be otherwise engaged.

Shri Kamath: Is this three-man Committee launching upon this inquiry with the conviction or even the presumption that Katakji is dead? Or has it got an open mind on this aspect of the matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Those people who have studied this matter are convinced of the fact of the death of Katakji.

But that does not mean that mind cannot be opened afresh, if necessary.

Shri Kamath: Will the Committee examine various persons who have made statements on this subject in recent weeks or even earlier in regard to the whereabouts or the existence of Katakji, in various parts of Asia? Will the the Committee also inquire into the identity of the person whose photograph was published in the Bengal Press some weeks ago, a Mongolian delegate? The



13  
E-5

670 Contd.

( Shri Kamath-Contd)

Prime Minister also admitted the resemblance to Ketaji.

And in view of the normal relations with Mongolia recently established.

Mr. Speaker: How many questions?

Shri Kamath; All right.

Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru: The Committee will work in close conjunction with representatives of the Japanese Government, and no doubt will draw up its own methods of procedure. I must say that the occasional statements that occur in newspapers are about as fantastic and as highly imaginative as any person can make them, and the story about some picture from Outer Mongolia resembling Ketaji- It is not for me to say no to anything is, I think, like talking about the moon being made of green cheese.

Shri Kamath: Now that we have happily established relations with Outer Mongolia, are we going to request the Government of Mongolia or of China, where the delegate was supposed to have gone in 1952, to co-operate with this inquiry?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: How do we co-operate? ~~wixxixixix~~

I do not quite understand. Do we ask them to search all the monasteries in Outer Mongolia or in China or elsewhere? What is the basis for it, except that somebody says that from the photograph it appears to him that there is some resemblance?

Shri Kamath: This photograph was published in the Peking  
worker's Press and not  
India alone. (166)  
(Ends)





By diplomatic Bag.

(60)

100-289/33(C) 115  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.

SECRET



18th April 1956.

Dear Mr. Sen,

The Netaji Enquiry Committee will be arriving in Tokyo on 4th May 1956. They wanted to visit Formosa in order to see the various sites (i.e. Taihoku, where the plane said to have carried Netaji crashed, etc.) and to examine some witnesses. The matter was referred to the Prime Minister and he has directed that it would be neither practicable nor advisable for them to go to Formosa as we do not recognise that Government and they are likely to put obstacles in the way of the Committee and even create difficulties and embarrassments.

2. The Committee are, however, likely to raise the issue with you again, and I suggest that, unless you see any strong reasons to the contrary, you may dissuade them from visiting Formosa.

Yours sincerely,

*T.N. Kaul*  
(T.N. Kaul)

Shri B.R. Sen, I.C.S.,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
TOKYO.

(167)





SECRET

By Diplomatic Bag.

106-2896 5510/110  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.



18th April 1956.

168

Dear Mr. Sen,

I enclose a list of witnesses whom the Netaji Enquiry Committee wish to examine during the course of their stay in Japan between the 4th May and 3rd June 1956. They would be grateful if you would kindly inform the witnesses and call them in batches, according to convenience, on different working days. The first 13 have been mentioned in the Japanese Government's Report sent to us, while the 12 others have been added by the Committee themselves. If you wish to suggest any other names of persons who might be useful in throwing light on the subject, you may kindly inform the Committee about them.

Yours sincerely,

(T.N. Kaul)

Shri B.R. Sen, I.C.S.,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
TOKYO.

Enc:

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<u>S.No.</u>	<u>Name of witness</u>	<u>Particulars as last known</u>
1.	Mr. Hachiya	Ambassador Designate to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind
2.	Col. S. Nonagaki	Who was the Staff Officer Headquarters of Air Forces in Java, is one of the survivors of the plane crash
3.	T. Yoshimi	Surgeon who attended Netaji in the Japanese Military Hospital, Taihoku
4.	T. Tsuruta	Army Surgeon, Namon Hospital, Taihoku
5.	K. Arai	Captain Headquarters Tsukasha Air Corps
6.	S. Takakura	Lt. Col. Staff Officer, Imperial Headquarters, Tokyo
7.	Shibuya	Lt. Col. Staff Officer, Army Forces, Formosa
8.	T. Sakai	Lt. Col. Staff Officer, Headquarters Army Forces, Burma
9.	M. Kinoshita	Major, Imperial Headquarters, Tokyo
10.	K. Sakai	Major, Battalion Commander, Taipeh Military Airport
11.	M. Nakamura	Captain In Charge, Taipeh Military Airport
12.	Hasegawa	Sub-Lt. Imperial Headquarters, Tokyo
13.	T. Hayashida	Sub-Lt. Headquarters, Army Forces in Formosa.
<hr/>		
1.	Mr. Nakamura	Was an Interpreter from the Civil Govt. Office, Formosa. He had been in touch with Netaji on his previous visits to Formosa, en route to Japan
2.	Warrant Officer Nishi	Is said to have taken the Netaji's coffin to the Aerodrome at Taihoku for transportation to Japan, returned and said that the body should be cremated.
3.	Col. Miyata	Was a Staff Officer of General Ando, Commander, Japanese Garrison at Formosa. He is said to have brought gifts for the deceased in accordance with the Japanese custom.
4.	Second Lt. Aoyagi	
5.	Sergeant Major	Pilot of the plane which is alleged to have crashed
6.	Col. Yano	Who was Chief of the Second Section, Southern Army Headquarters, Saigon. He is said to have made certain statements before the British regarding Netaji's intentions.
7.	General Isoda	Chief of Hikari Kikan



8. Miss Chenpee Sha      Formosan nurse who was working in the Hospital at Taihoku
  9. Mr. Watanabe      Who belonged to Hikari Kikan, Bangkok. He was an Interpreter
  10. Lt. Hotata      Assistant Medical Officer who kept in Yoshimi at Taihoku, is said to have treated Netaji
  11. Capt. Yoshida      Of Japanese Air Force, probably attached to Air Headquarters, Saigon
  12. Capt. Kiano      of Hikari Kikan.
-



(62)  
INCOMING



No. 55.

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM: CONFIDENTIAL.  
FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.  
TO: EMBASSY, TOKYO.

D.T.O. APR 25 NIL.  
D.T.R. APR 26 0930.

I M M E D I A T E .

No. 25146

Addressed Tokyo repeated Shri. SHAH NAWAZ KHAN  
care Chief Secretary Calcutta.

Your telegram No. 35 of 16th April.  
Netaji Enquiry Committee authorised to engage  
local stenographer. Kindly secure services of  
one stenographer after committee's arrival.  
Letter follows.

Ambassador

FS

CONFIDENTIAL

(171)





(63)

172  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

No. 5(1)NGO-I.


the 27th April, 1956.

Subject:- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose  
Enquiry Committee.

Dear Mr. Hattori,

With reference to our personal discussion of 26th April, I enclose herewith in duplicate a list of persons whom the Committee would like to meet and interview in connection with the subject enquiry. In case the Committee desire to meet any other person, you will of course be requested for the necessary facilities and arrangements.

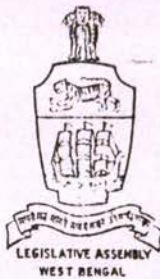
Yours sincerely,

  
(A.K. Dar)

Mr. Hisaji Hattori,  
Chief of the 4th Section,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Gaimusho, Tokyo.

172





(173)



*Handwritten:* H. S. Mukherjee  
28/4

6, Clive Row,  
Calcutta  
23rd April 1956.  
-----

Dear Mr. Sen,

The Delegation appointed to investigate into the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose will be arriving in Tokyo on May 2nd.

Major General Shah Nawaj is in Calcutta now taking evidence and I met him. He is anxious to meet the Mayor of Taipeh of Formosa who may be in Tokyo at the time as it is likely that he will be attending the Asian Mayors Conference which is being held in Tokyo between May 2nd & May 12. Major General Shah Nawaj has requested me to help him in establishing contact with the Mayor of Taipeh and I have written to the Managing Director of the Mitsui Steamship Co, to try and help him in this connection. He also requires an English Steno-Typist who will be able to keep record and evidence that they will be taken. I suppose they will be contacting as soon as they arrive and you will be able to find out and do all that is possible for them.

With my kindest regards to you and Mrs. Sen.

Yours sincerely,

*Handwritten signature: Nares Nath Mookerjee*  
(NARESH NATH MOOKERJEE)

His Excellency B.R. Sen,  
Indian Ambassador to Japan,  
Indian Embassy,  
Tokyo, Japan.

(173)



cyA for [unclear] 20/4

(174) (65)

180  
30 APR 1956  
DIPLOMATIC BAG  
SECRET  
TOKYO

S-87/36  
30.4.56

No. F.71(A)1/Per-C/56  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

NEW DELHI, THE 24th APRIL, 1956.

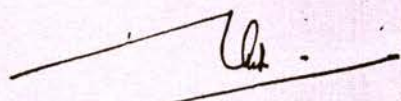
EXPRESS LETTER

FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.  
TO: EMBASSY, TOKYO.

✓ d 56  
p108

Reference your telegram No. 35, dated April 16th regarding India-based stenographer for Netaji Enquiry Committee.

In addition to the one stenographer being taken from India, the Committee is being authorised to hire such local stenographic assistance as may be necessary and available. You are, therefore, requested kindly to locate a suitable local stenographer for engagement by the Committee on arrival. To the extent that the needs of the Committee are not entirely met by the India-based stenographer accompanying them and by such local help as may be available, it is hoped that the Embassy will give as much assistance as possible.

  
(INDER SEN)  
UNDER SECRETARY.

(174)



166) (283) 14 MAY 1956 (75) 123  
SHAH NAWAZ KHAN,  
Chairman, Netaji Enquiry Committee,

Care Indian Embassy,  
Tokyo,  
Dated the 11th May '56.

My dear Dar,

In addition to the list of witnesses already sent to you, the Committee would like to examine the following witnesses for whom the Japanese Foreign Office may please be approached to make them available for examination by the Committee:-

1. Mr. Okshita, who was the navigator of the plane which is alleged to have been crashed at Taihoku. He is one of the survivors.
2. Major Kojima, He was a Staff officer at Saigon and is said to have made arrangements for Netaji's journey from Saigon onwards.
3. Japanese nurses who were on duty in the Nanmon Hospital when Netaji was brought there.

/Taihoku, Taiwan

Yours sincerely,

*Shah Nawaz Khan*  
(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

Shri A.K.Dar,  
First Secretary,  
Indian Embassy,  
TOKYO.

(175)



May 14, 1956

Dear Mr. Hattori,

The Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry  
Commission is anxious to examine the following witnesses :-

1. Mr. Okshita, who was the Navigator of the plane which is alleged to have ~~been~~ crashed at Taihoku. He is one of the survivors.
2. Major Kojima. He was a Staff Officer at Saigon and is said to have made arrangements for Netaji's journey from Saigon onwards.
3. Japanese nurses who were on duty in the Nanmon Hospital, Taihoku, Taiwan when Netaji was brought there.

I would be grateful if arrangements could kindly be made for the persons above-mentioned to meet the Commission.

Yours sincerely,

  
( A.K.Dar )

Mr. Hisaji Hattori,  
Chief of the 4th Section,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Gaimusho, Tokyo.

(176)





177  
125  
EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

Dated the 18th May 1956.

Dear Shri Sen,

The Netaji Enquiry Committee has before it some evidence that the aeroplane carrying Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose crashed at Taihoku air-field in Taiwan (Formosa) and that his body was cremated there. In order to examine Formosan witnesses and to visit the alleged place of occurrence, the Committee had, before leaving Delhi, enquired about the possibility of visiting Formosa and had written to Shri Dutt, Foreign Secretary. His reply dated 18th April (copy enclosed) was not very favourable. Since then, the Committee has examined a number of witnesses in Japan and feel that it would be very desirable to pay a visit to Formosa if it is at all possible. The Japanese Foreign Office have been helping the Committee in its work in every way and it may be presumed that they would be helpful if a proposal for the Committee's visit to Formosa is made to them. At a small party given by Mr. Hattori and others of the Foreign Office, this matter was brought up informally and Mr. Hattori gave me to understand that such a request if made to them, they would be willing to use their good offices with the Taiwan authorities. The Committee has another 2 weeks in Japan and would be obliged if the possibility of paying a visit to Formosa is further examined to enable them to do so during this time.

Shri B.R. Sen,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.  
Encl:1

Yours sincerely,

Shah Nawaz Khan  
(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)



(178)

Secret.

FS/407

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.

April 18, 1956.

Dear Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,

Will you please refer to your D.O. No. PS/56/N of 10th April? As you are aware, we have no diplomatic relations with the Formosan Government, nor do we recognise them. It is unlikely that they will give any facilities to an Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government of India in this matter. It is even possible that they would put obstacles in the way of the Committee, and create difficulties and complications which would hinder rather than help the work of the Committee. In these circumstances, we do not think that it would be practicable or advisable for the Committee to go to Formosa.

Yours sincerely,

Sd.S. Dutt.  
Foreign Secretary.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,  
Chairman,  
Netaji Enquiry Committee,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

(178)



~~SECRET~~ (69)  
O.T.P.

~~SECRET~~ 94  
C.S. No. 44.

TELEGRAM: SECRET. **OUTGOING**  
FROM: INDENTASSY, TOKYO.  
TO: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

(179)  
P.T.O. MAY 191730.  
P.T.R. MAY 191740.

IMMEDIATE.

No. 44

DUTT from SEN.

✓ 81 68  
P 125-126

In a confidential letter to me today the Netaji Enquiry Committee states " The Committee has examined a number of witnesses in Japan and feel that it would be very desirable to pay a visit to Formosa if it is at all possible. The Japanese Foreign Office have been helping the Committee in its work in every way and it may be presumed that they would be helpful if a proposal for the Committee's visit to Formosa is made to them. At a small party given by Mr. Hattori Chief of the Asian Desk and others of the Foreign Office, this matter was brought up informally and Mr. Hattori gave me to understand that such a request if made to them, they would be willing to use their good offices with the Taiwan authorities. The Committee has another 2 weeks in Japan and would be obliged if the possibility of paying a visit to Formosa is further examined to enable them to do so during this time". The position appears to be that the Japanese Government will not give any definite undertaking to move in the matter without a definite proposal either from the Committee or from the Embassy and neither of us can make such a request without Government approval in view of Dutt's letter to the Committee dated April 12th. I have today explained to the Committee the further deterioration in the relations between India and Formosa over Formosa's disruption of diplomatic relations with Egypt but feel that if this approach by the Committee is peremptorily dismissed the Committee will have a grievance which may make their whole report infructuous in the eyes of some sections of our people. In my view therefore the Committee should be permitted to approach the Japanese Government for their good offices in the matter even if Embassy keeps out of it.

Please place this before Prime Minister.

Ambassador  
FS

**SECRET**

(179)





SHAH NAWAZ KHAN, M.P.,  
Chairman, Netaji Enquiry Committee,

180  
128  
No. PS/56/NEC.

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO



Dated the 23rd May 1956.

My dear Dar,

In addition to the list of witnesses already sent to you, we would like to examine the following, for whom the Japanese Foreign Office may please be approached to make them available for examination by the Committee:-

- (1) Lt. General Isayama, Chief of General Staff, Formosa Army in 1945.
- (2) Buddhist Priest at Taihoku who is reported to have held the funeral ceremony of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Taihoku in August 1945.
- (3) Kazuo Mitsui (Address: No. 15, Nishihata-cho, Wakamatsu City, Fukuoka-Ken), a soldier at Taihoku in August 1945, who claims to be present at the time of death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

From the evidence of Dr. Yoshimi, names of the Japanese nurses which were not available to us when I wrote to you on the 11th May, are now available. These are:-

- (4) Nakano, Ohama, Tomimoto and Nishimoto.

These names may kindly be communicated to the Japanese Foreign Office for tracing them.

Yours sincerely,

(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

Shri A.K. Dar,  
First Secretary,  
Indian Embassy,  
Tokyo.

180



May 23,

Dear Mr. Hattori,

In addition to the lists of witnesses sent to you previously the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission is anxious to secure evidence from the following persons also :-

1. Lt. General Isayama, Chief of General Staff, Formosa Army in 1945.
2. Buddhist Priest at Taihoku who is reported to have conducted the funeral ceremony for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Taihoku in August, 1945.
3. Kazuo Mitsui (Address: No.15, Nishihata-cho, Wakamatsu City, Fukuoka-ken), a soldier at Taihoku in August 1945, who claims to have been present at the time of the reported death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

As item (3) in my letter of May 14th we have requested for the attendance of Japanese nurses who were on duty in the Nanmon Hospital, Taihoku, Taiwan when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was reportedly brought there. Dr. Yoshimi has now informed the Committee of the names of these nurses. The names as given are :-

- (a) Nakano,
- (b) Ohama,
- (c) Tomimoto, and
- (d) Nishimoto.

I would be grateful if you could kindly make arrangements for the persons listed above to meet the Commission at mutual convenience.

Yours sincerely,

*A.K. Dar*  
( A.K.Dar )

Mr. Hisaji Hattori,  
Chief of the 4th Section,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Gaimusho, Tokyo.

(184)



(12)  
INCOMING

(182)

C.S. No. 66.

O. T. R.

TELEGRAM: SECRET. **SECRET**  
FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI,  
TO: AMEMBASSY, TOKYO.



D.T.O. MAY 221400.  
D.T.R. MAY 230930.

IMMEDIATE.

No. 28407

Ambassador from KAU. 467/127

Your telegram No. 44 of 19th May. Matter has been placed before Prime Minister. We had made it clear to Committee in Delhi that it would not be practicable or advisable for them to visit Formosa. The only possible advantage of going there might have been to see entries in hospital registers. At that time the hospital was run by the Japanese and all the Japanese must have come away. There can be no first hand evidence available there. It is conceivable however that some entries in the hospital registers might give some further information. We would like you to suggest to the Committee that you may on their behalf request the Japanese Government, to ask their Ambassador in Formosa to be good enough to see the hospital entries and ~~the~~ <sup>send</sup> certified copies. At the Committee's request we had approached U.K. High Commission here to get this information for us but have not had a reply yet. The Japanese Ambassador in Formosa would be in a better position to handle this matter than the British who have only a Consul.

2. We have considered the matter again and are not in favour of the Committee visit to Formosa. Japan's good offices may enable Committee to land there but it is unlikely that the Formosan Government will give any facilities. In fact that they may put obstacles and suggest degrading conditions. Apart to this politically this will be very embarrassing for us and might lead to complicating situations. If the Committee feels that there may be some public criticism here later they are at liberty to state if necessary that the Ministry of External Affairs advised them against a visit to Formosa.

Ambassador

FS

(182)

**SECRET**



(93)

(183)

(13)

SECRET

F.5(1)NGO-I

May 25, 1956

To

The Chairman,  
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Committee,  
Tokyo.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 18th May, 1956, to Ambassador Sen regarding the visit of the Committee to Formosa, I am desirous to say that the contents of your letter were conveyed to the Government of India with the request that the matter may be placed before the Prime Minister. The Ministry of External Affairs have replied vide their telegram of May 22nd that as had already been mentioned to the Commission at Delhi it would neither be advisable nor practicable to visit Formosa. The Ministry of External Affairs have added that the hospital concerned in Formosa was being run by the Japanese all of whom would have left Formosa by now and no first hand evidence would be available in Formosa under the circumstances. The Ministry of External Affairs feel, however, that there might be entries in hospital registers at Formosa which would be relevant and these may be obtained through the Japanese Government by arranging for the Japanese Ambassador in Formosa to make certified copies of the entries and send them to this Embassy for handing over to the Commission.

Cancelled.  
Read. Sl. 76  
p. 134

2. The Ministry of External Affairs feel strongly that any attempt to visit Formosa may well turn out to be embarrassing all round and lead to frustrating complications without any advantage for the Commission. [Under the circumstances I am to request for advice of the further action desired in the matter of securing authenticated copies of the entries in the hospital registers at Formosa.]

3. This letter has been written in the absence of the Ambassador and if the Commission so desire confirmation of the above reply from the Ministry of External Affairs can be secured when the Ambassador returns to Tokyo.

Yours faithfully,

A.K. Dar

( A.K. Dar )  
First Secretary

(183)



# INCOMING

C.S. No. 70.

(184)

O. T. P.

SECRET

TELEGRAM: SECRET.

FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

TO: INTERBUREAU, TAIPEI.

D.T.O. MAY 241330.

T.T.R. MAY 250930.

INITIALS

No. 28409

Ambassador from PAUL.

8/72  
P.130

Reference my telegram No. 28407 of 22nd May. U.F. High Commission have just informed us that their Consul in Taipei has telegraphed that Formosa authorities are willing to allow 5 Chinese whose names were given by Committee to be examined by British Consul in the presence of Formosa officials. They are however not prepared to let them go to Hongkong to appear before our Committee. British Consul would like to have names in Chinese of the witnesses and the corresponding files reference.

2. He did not mention anything about the entries in the crematorium register and is being reminded about it.

3. Formosa authorities' refusal to allow witnesses to go to Hongkong is significant. It is possible that they may possess their witnesses and make them give wrong statements which may only complicate the work of the Committee. Our opinion therefore that Committee should not visit Formosa is confirmed. Please consult and ask them whether they would still like British Consul in Formosa to examine Chinese witnesses. Our advice would be that you should wait till you hear from the Japanese authorities in response to your approach.

\*  
Gp. Corrupt.  
Govern By Change.  
atone

Ambassador

FS

SECRET

atone -  
Gp. Corrupt.  
Govern By Change.  
atone

(184)



(135) (185) (133)  
SECRET

F.5(1)NGO-I

May 26,

6

To

The Chairman,  
Netaji Enquiry Committee,  
Tokyo.

Dear Sir,

86-73  
P 13/14

1. In continuation of my letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I dated the 24th May, 1956, I am desirous to inform you on the authority of telegraphic advice received vide telegram dated May 24th from the Ministry of External Affairs that in response to the request from the Government of India to the authorities in Formosa, through the U.K. Government, to allow five Chinese, whose names were furnished by the Commission, to proceed to Hong Kong for giving evidence to the Commission; the Formosa authorities have replied that they are not willing to allow the persons to leave Formosa but would be willing to allow these Chinese to give evidence to the British Consul at Formosa in the presence of Formosan officials. In case the Commission would like to obtain the statements of the Chinese in Formosa in the above manner I am to request for the full names in Chinese of the witnesses concerned.

2. I am to say further that the Government of India have not heard as yet from the U.K. authorities about the entries in the crematorium registers and the British Consul at Formosa is being reminded in the matter.

3. The Government of India feel, I am to add, that this attitude of the Formosa authorities in refusing the Chinese witnesses to give evidence to the Commission directly at Hong Kong is indicative of what may be expected. However, if the Commission would like the British Consul at Formosa to record the evidence of the relevant witnesses under the conditions stipulated by the Formosa authorities the Government of India would consider arranging for the same. The Government feel, nevertheless, that the Committee may consider it desirable to defer this matter until after some indication is available of the attitude of the Formosa authorities to the suggestion of Government conveyed in my previous letter of May 25th that the Japanese Ambassador at Formosa be asked to obtain certified copies of the entries in the hospital registers for transmission to the Commission. I would, under the circumstances, be grateful for advice of the decision arrived at by the Commission on paragraph 2 of my letter of May 25th enquiring whether the Embassy should now approach the Gaimusho formally for securing through the Japanese Ambassador at Formosa authenticated copies of the entries in the hospital registers at Formosa.

Yours faithfully,

*A.K. Dar*

( A.K. Dar )  
First Secretary

(185)



(176) (186) 134  
SECRET

F.5(1)NGO-I

May 28,

6

To

The Chairman,  
Netaji Enquiry Committee,  
Tokyo.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to say that the Ambassador has on  
return to Tokyo confirmed the contents of my two letters  
both bearing reference No. F.5(1)NGO-I and dated May 25th  
and 26th, 1956, respectively with the following modification. sl 73  
p.131

sl 75  
p.131 Paragraph 2 of my letter of May the 25th, 1956, may  
kindly be cancelled and substituted by a fresh paragraph  
2 as given below :-

"The Ministry of External Affairs feel after reconsideration of the matter that they would not be in favour of the Commission visiting Formosa. The Ministry of External Affairs feel that even if the good offices of Japan enable the Commission to proceed to Formosa it is not likely that the Formosan Government would extend any facilities and in fact they may well put obstacles in the way and stipulate degrading conditions. The Ministry feel further that it would be politically embarrassing and might lead to complicating situations. The Ministry advise that if the Commission feels that there would be public criticism later the Commission is at liberty to say, if necessary, that the Ministry of External Affairs advised against a visit to Formosa. Under the circumstances I am to request for advice of the further action desired in the matter of securing authenticated copies of the entries in the hospital registers at Formosa."

Yours faithfully,

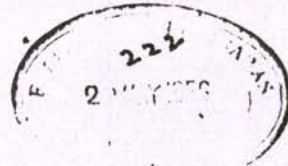
*AKD*  
( A.K.Dar )  
First Secretary

(186)



EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

Tokyo, Dt. the 26th May '56.



Dear Shri Dar,

I am given to understand that one Col. Figges was deputed by the British Government soon after the end of the last war to go to Formosa and make certain enquiries relating to the alleged plane crash in which Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was involved. I believe Col. Figges is now posted in Tokyo as Military Secretary in the British Embassy. The Committee would very much like to meet him and record his evidence. The Committee appreciates that without the permission from his own Government, it would not be possible for Col. Figges to appear before the Committee. I would, therefore, request you to take necessary steps for securing permission for Col. Figges from his ~~own~~ Government to appear before the Committee.

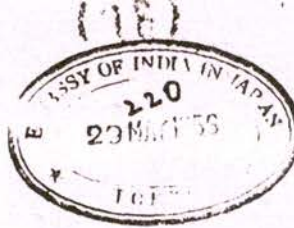
Yours faithfully,

*Shah Nawaz Khan*  
(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

Shri A.K. Dar,,  
First Secretary,  
Indian Embassy,  
Tokyo.



-COPY 3



CONFIDENTIAL.

No. PS/56/NEC

Dated the 29th May, 1956

{ Original Copy.  
Forwarded  
to the Dep. :

Dear Mr. Sen,

Our Committee has seen the two letters from Dar (Nos. F5(1)NGO-I, dated the 25th and 26th of May 1956), regarding the evidence in Formosa. It is noted that the Government of India are not in favour of the Committee paying a visit to Formosa. It is also noted that the authorities in Formosa are not willing to allow the evidence of Formosan witnesses to be recorded outside that Island. In the circumstances, the Committee has no option but to agree to the only method by which evidence of Formosan witnesses is likely to be obtained. Arrangements may please be made to have the statements of Formosan witnesses recorded, as suggested, by the British Consul General and make them available to the Committee either during their return to India, Care of the Ministry of External Affairs. In this connection, it is suggested that a hint, if there is no objection, may be given to the British Consul in Formosa that while a Chinese official might be present during examination of Formosan witnesses by the Consul, the latter would no doubt make sure that the witnesses speak their mind openly. It would be appreciated if 4 copies of the statement in English, duly authenticated by the British Consul, are forwarded to this Committee.

We have been asked to supply Chinese names in full of the Formosan witnesses. We have only got the names through non-Chinese sources and can give them as we have received. The names of the Formosan witnesses together with some indication of the points on which they might give evidence, are given in the attached note.

As for the entries in the hospital and crematorium registers, it is a matter of convenience whether they are obtained through the British Consul or

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(189)

(131)

the Japanese Ambassador in Formosa. The Committee would have no objection if the latter channel is used.

The papers concerned are three :-

1. The doctor's report regarding the alleged death of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose at Nanmon Military Hospital Taihoku (Taipeh) on or about the 18th August, 1945.
2. The police report on the same subject.
3. The cremation permit issued by the Bureau of Health and Hygiene, Taihoku (Taipeh) on or about the 20th of August, 1945.

It may please be ascertained whether such records are available. If they are, it is requested that relevant extracts made from them on proper authentication and four copies of the same together with certified English translations may kindly be made available to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- SHAH NAWAZ KHAN

Shri. B.R. Sen,  
Ambassador for India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

Encl:1.

(189)



(190) 1138

Points for the British Consul in Taiwan.

The Government of India have appointed a Committee to enquire into the alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, with the following terms of reference:-

" To enquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident and subsequent developments connected therewith."

Some witnesses have deposed to the Committee that Mr. Bose met with an air accident at Taihoku (Taipeh) airfield on the 18th August, 1945, and that he was admitted to the Nanmon Military Hospital where he is said to have expired the same night. It is said that his body was cremated at Taihoku City crematorium on the 20th August. There are some witnesses in Formosa who may be able to give evidence on the following points. Their names as obtained from Indian sources are given below and may not be wholly accurate. It is also regretted that their present addresses are not known to the Committee. In tracing these witnesses, it might be of advantage to contact the following gentlemen noted\* on the margin\*

\*Mr. Huang,  
Supdt. of Police,  
Taipeh

Mr. S.P. Chun, Secy.  
to the Commissioner  
of Police, Formosa.

Mr. Chung Yung-kai,  
Office of the Governor  
General of Formosa.

1. Nurse Tsan Pi Sha (nurse in Nanmon Military Hospital, Taihoku (Taipeh) in August, 1945.

This witness might testify regarding the entry of Mr. Bose and his Adjutant, Col. Habibur Rehman, into the Nanmon Military Hospital, their treatment there, the last hours of Mr. Bose, his death, keeping the body in the hospital and its removal later on.

2. Miss Chu Chow Tse, nurse Nanmon Military Hospital.

This witness is said to have been on leave during that time but might have heard of the story.

(190)



3. Dr. Kan King-yen, Present, Bureau of Health of Hygiene, Taihoku (Taipeh) in August 1945.

This witness might give evidence regarding maintenance of record in the Bureau, particularly of the certificate for the alleged cremation of Mr. Bose's body. No 4 and 5. Mr. Li Chin Kui and Mr. Tan Chi Ch., Clerks in the Bureau of Health and Hygiene, Taihoku (Taipeh), in August 1945.

These witnesses are said to have issued a certificate of cremation in respect of the body of Mr. Bose after reading the relevant medical reports from Nanmon Military Hospital and Police report regarding the death. They are also said to have seen the body which was identified by some Japanese officer. These witnesses might testify regarding the certificates, namely, the doctor's certificate and cremation certificate. If there be any wrong entries in any one or all the certificates, they might be able to give reasons for the same.

6. Mr. Chu Tsung, In Charge, Taihoku City Government Crematorium.

This witness may be able to testify as to who brought the body of Mr. Bose to the crematorium, who identified it, how was the actual burning conducted, and who took delivery of the ashes.



CONFIDENTIAL

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

(79)

May 30, 1956

Dear Mr. Selby,

In confirmation of our telephone conversation yesterday, this is to request for advice of the procedure that may be adopted in securing the evidence of Col. J.G. Figgess for the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission, which has been set up by the Government of India and is presently in Japan. As already mentioned to you the Commission is most anxious to ascertain from Col. Figgess any information that he may have on the subject matter for which the Enquiry Commission has been set up by the Government of India. I enclose herewith a copy of the terms of reference for this Commission.

Yours sincerely,

*AKD*

( A.K.Dar )

R.W. Selby Esquire,  
Counsellor & Head of Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Tokyo.

Encl: 1.

192



CONFIDENTIAL

F.5(1)NGO-I

May 30,

6

Dear Mr. Hattori,

The Netaji Enquiry Commission is anxious to secure copies of the entries relating to the treatment etc. of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose at the Nanmon Military Hospital Taihoku (Taipeh). In particular the Committee would very much like to have copies of the following three papers or documents :-

- (i) The doctor's report regarding the death of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose at Nanmon Military Hospital, Taihoku (Taipeh) on or about the 18th August, 1945.
- (ii) The police report, if any, on the same subject.
- (iii) The cremation permit issued by the Bureau of Health and Hygiene, Taihoku (Taipeh) on or about the 20th of August, 1945.

2. It is not known to this Embassy if the relevant hospital registers and the originals of the three documents above listed are available but we would be most grateful for the good offices of the Gaimusho in kindly securing authentic copies of available relevant records. Perhaps the securing of the copies may take a little time but the Embassy would very much appreciate urgent advice about the prospect of getting these copies through the good offices of the Government of Japan.

Yours sincerely,

AKJ

( A.K.Dar )

Mr. H. Hattori,  
Chief of the 4th Section,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Government of Japan,  
Tokyo.



SECRET

(81) (194)



No. F.5(1)NGO-I

May 29, 1956

Dear Mr. Kaul,

With reference to your telegrams Nos. 28407 of May 22nd, 1956 and 28409 of May 24th, 1956 to the Ambassador, I am desirous to enclose herewith a copy (signed) of letter No. PS/56/NEC dated the 29th May, 1956, from the Chairman of the Enquiry Commission to the Ambassador, for your further action.

Also forwarded are my letters of the 25th and 26th May, 1956, referred to in the letter from the Chairman of the Commission. These letters were based on your two telegrams cited above. On his return from tour the Ambassador wanted some amendment to be made to my first letter of May 25th. The amendment was accordingly made vide my letter of May 28th, 1956, of which also a copy is forwarded herewith. Although the members of the Commission were shown your telegrams it was not considered desirable to hand over the full texts of the two telegrams to the Commission.

We are approaching the Gaimusho to secure certified copies of entries in the hospital registers through the Japanese Ambassador to Formosa and the result will be communicated to you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

*A.K. Dar*

( A.K.Dar )

Shri T.N. Kaul, ICS,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Encls:

(194)



THE GAIMUSHO

(82)



June 14, 1956

Dear Mr. Dar,

With reference to your letter No. F.5(1)-NGO-1 of May 30, 1956, requesting for copies of the entries relating to the treatment etc. of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, I wish to inform you that the following reply was made by the Chief of Operation Section, Repatriation and Relief Bureau, Ministry of Welfare, to our enquiry on this matter:

"In spite of the thorough investigations made on the files of Doctor's Reports, Karte and Death Certificates, which had been transferred from the former Taipeh Army Hospital to this Bureau for custody, no record on Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose as required in the official note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs could be found out."

I wish to add that the matter was referred to the Embassy of Japan in Taipeh also for further investigation.

Sincerely yours,

*Hisaji Hattori*  
Hisaji Hattori  
Chief of 4th Section  
Asian Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. A. K. Dar  
First Secretary  
Embassy of India  
Tokyo

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(83)

(196)

INCOMING  
O.T.P.

TELEGRAM: SECRET.  
FROM: FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.  
TO: INDEMBASSY, TOKYO.

SECRET

D.T.O. JUL 031600.  
D.T.R. JUL 040930.

I M M E D I A T E .

No.28424

For Ambassador.

Reference our telegram No.28407 of 22nd May. As Enquiry Committee is about to conclude its report grateful if you would kindly enquire from Japanese Government whether they have received any report from their Ambassador in Formosa regarding hospital entries and other records concerning Netaji.

Ambassador  
ES

SECRET

(196)



(84) (197) 145  
CONFIDENTIAL

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

July 4, 1956

Dear Mr. Hattori,

✓ d. 80 / p. 143/c.

✓ Sl. 82 / p. 143/c. Please refer to my letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of May 30th, 1956, and your interim reply of June the 14th, 1956, regarding the securing of copies of the hospital and crematorium records relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Netaji Enquiry Commission is most anxious to have the final reply of your Embassy at Taipei. I would accordingly be grateful for urgent advice whether it has been possible for your Embassy to locate the required records and if authenticated copies thereof could be supplied for the Netaji Enquiry Commission and if not, advice of the present status of this matter.

Yours sincerely,

RQ  
\_\_\_\_\_  
( A.K.Dar )

Mr. H. Hattori,  
Chief of the 4th Section,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Tokyo.

(197)



(85) (198)  
**INCOMING**



O.S. No. 111.

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM:

SECRET.

**SECRET**

FROM:

FOREIGN, NEW DELHI.

TO:

INDEMBASSY, TOKYO.

D.T.O. JUL. 12 NIL.

D.T.R. JUL. 130930.

I M M E D I A T E .

No.4652

MAITRA NETAJI Enquiry Committee to

DAR.

<sup>For</sup>  
~~Four~~ our report obliged if four  
copies each post card size photograph following  
gentlemen obtained and sent earliest.

1. T. HACHIYA 370 Marounouchi Building,
2. Reverend MOCHIZUKI, Renkoji Temple and
3. Lt. Col. T. SAKAI address known to  
Gaimusho.

Ambassador

FS.

**SECRET**

(198)



Dear Mr. Ivama,

July 16, 1956.

In confirmation of my telephonic request of the 14th July, 1956, this is to advise that the Netaji Enquiry Committee has asked for six post-card size photographs of the following persons who had given evidence before the Enquiry Committee :-

1. Mr. T. Hachiya, formerly Minister of Japan to the Azad Hind Government.
2. Former Lt.Col. T. Sakai of Army Headquarters Burma.
3. Rev. Mochizuki, Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple.

It seems that the Enquiry Committee did not secure the photographs of these gentlemen initially and the Committee is most anxious to have them now. I would be accordingly be grateful for your good offices in kindly arranging for these photographs and having them sent to this Embassy along with the bill of cost.

Yours sincerely,

AW

( A.K.Dar ) -

Mr. T. Ivama,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Government of Japan,  
Tokyo.



THE GAIMUSHO



July 24, 1956

Dear Mr. Dar,

With reference to your letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of July 16, 1956, addressed to Mr. Iwama, I enclose herewith six copies each of photographs of Messrs. Hachiya, Sakai and Mochizuki.

Yours sincerely,

*Hisaji Hattori*

Hisaji Hattori  
Chief of 4th Section  
Asian Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. A. K. Dar  
First Secretary  
Embassy of India  
Tokyo

N.B. Bill of cost claimed by Mr. S. Matsuda of this Section is attached herewith enclosed.

Detached and handed over  
to Accts. Secy:

*lms/  
26/7*

*(200)*



BY AIR MAIL  
BY BAG

CONFIDENTIAL

(88)

(201)

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

July 24, 1956

My dear Mr. Maitra,

sl. 85  
p. 146/c.

With reference to your telegram No. 4652 of July 12th, 1956, I am sending herewith by air mail three photographs each of Mr. Hachiya, Rev. Mochizuki and Col. T. Sakai which were received through the Gaimusho only this afternoon. To allow for any losses occurring in the postal system three additional copies of each will be sent by the next bag to Delhi.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

RH

( A.K.Dar )

Shri S.N. Maitra, ICS,  
Secretary,  
Netaji Enquiry Committee,  
New Delhi.

Encls:

(201)



No. F.5(1)NGO-I

July 26, 1956

My dear

72 4  
p.151-155/c

I enclose herewith letter dated the 11th July, 1956, from Mr. Sankaysu Kobayashi in original in the Japanese language. Also attached is an English translation of the letter which has been made at the Embassy. After going through the letter I feel that Mr. Kobayashi is completely confused and is mixing up Rashbehari Bose with Subhas Chandra Bose as it was Rashbehari Bose who had married into the Soma family in Japan.

2. I would suggest that if you agree the disability certificate in Japanese marked "A" in red pencil might be returned to Mr. Kobayashi as it would perhaps be useful to him.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

RW

( A.K.Dar )

Shri Shahnawaz Khan,  
Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Minister of Railways,  
New Delhi.

Encls:



(263)

real Mr. Bose.

A newspaper played up the information furnish by me surrounding the death of Mr. Bose. I told many newsmen and former soldiers who came to ask me about matter that I did not write you anything which might be against the interests of Japanese nation.

As to the jewels in question, putting all accounts together, it seems they were full of a bag 10x 8x5 inches instead of one oil can. I heard that his plane arrived at Taihoku Aerodrome from Berma via Bangkok and Saigon. It is reported that the jewels were brought by him secretly at that time. I know all the names of persons who were there to meet him as well as his co-passengers in the fighter plane heading for Japan. No sooner the plane flew up several hundred meters than it crashed on the ground. I presume his adjutant Mr. Brahman did not suffer serious injuries.

I heard something artificial had been hidden in the plane. There is a rumour that the jewels were handed over by a certain person, whose name is clearly known, to members of the General Staff Office. They were sent to Tokyo. In Miyagi Prefecture, there is 5000 Unit at Ojoji and the rest is being kept in the safe of Miyagi Prefectural Government.

In this connection, people in my locality are speaking ill of me saying "Mr. Kobayashi may be making a living by selling the jewels in question which he divided with his old friends." I have got my wife and two boys of 9 and 14 years of age respectively. Since I was injured at my right hand, I am receiving livelihood guarantee money for the disabled. I hope you will understand that I am really disabled from the enclosed "Certificate for the disabled persons." It was my opinion that the military car was sent to Sendai on the ground that the city was Mr. Aizo Soma's native place. People say that the jewels kept in the safe of Miyagi Prefectural Government have been removed by American soldier, Major who is imprisoned in the United States now.

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(204)  
I shall be grate ful for your kind reply to my following questions;

1. Is Mr Chandra Bose for whom I served as a guide real one?

2. Or, did he never visit Japan and was he killed of an explosion at the Matsuyama aerodrome?

As for me, I feel like dreaming. His funeral service was held by the Imperial Headquarters and the highest rank was given by a temple of Nichiren sect at Koenji to the departed soul.

I shall geve you more information at your request.

11th July, 1956

Faithfully yours,

SANKAYSU KOBAYASHI

(204)



**PERSON KILLED IN PLANE CRASH WAS SUBSTITUTE**

According to Mr- Sankatsu Kobayashi, who served for Mr. Chandra Bose as his guide, Mr. Bose married a daughter of the owner of Nakamura Bakery at Shinjuku, Tokyo, having two children at the time of his death. During the war, there was a rumour that Mr. Bose was living in Niigata Prefecture, but Mr. Bose had been substituted by one named U Nu according to Mr. Kobayashi. The ashes of Mr. Bose who was killed in a plane accident at the Taihoku Aerodrome was sent to the Imperial Headquarters and buried in a grave at the Renkoji Temple by the members of the India Independence League. However, Mr. Kobayashi says that it was not Mr. Bose who was killed in the plane accident because he proceeded to Burma with his two children and died there under the pressure of the authorities. Mr. Kobayashi wanted to visit the Netaji Inquiry Committee but he wrote to them as he was very busy, and received a letter of thanks from the committee.

Mr Kobayashi says:-

"I served for Mr. Bose at the request of Mr. Bamboku Ohno's younger brother, I heard something about the disposal of the fund for Indian independence and jewels, but I do not know the details. Since Mr. Bose's life was in danger, they made three "Bose", and the real Mr. Bose had been staying in Tokyo. I have got an information that he died in Burma after the last war, not in Taihoku of Formosa."

(205)



(15)  
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CERTIFICATE FOR REDUCTION OF PASSENGER'S  
FARES FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

(Good for only one person)

From station to station

Address: 42, Maino Ipponsugi Ochiai, Yamato-cho  
Kurokawa-gun.

Name: Sankatsu Kobayashi.

Class &  
Rate of reduction:

3rd class. 50% reduction.

-----

Issued on the 31st January, 1956

Sd/

(Kenzo Fukushi)

Chief,  
Miyagi Kurokawa Branch  
Miyagi Prefectural Govt.

206



SECRET

(90)

(207)

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

July 25, 1956.

Dear Mr. Kaul,

Sl. 83  
p. 144

4 p. 157-158/c  
With reference to your telegram No. 28424 of July 3rd, 1956, I enclose herewith a self-explanatory letter dated the 24th July, 1956, together with its enclosures as received today from the Gaimusho official incharge of Indian Affairs. Mention in this letter of Mr. Dar's letter relates to my original request to the Gaimusho for supplying the material that had been asked by you.

2. The Gaimusho have mentioned verbally in addition that they have been unable to trace any further records whether in their custody or in Formosa.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

AKD

( A.K.Dar )

Shri T.N. Kaul, ICS,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Encls:

(207)



208  
July 24, 1956

Dear Mr. Dar,

With reference to your letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of May 30th, 1956, and my letter dated June 14th, 1956, I wish to inform you that the following reply has been received from Mr. K. Horiuchi, Ambassador of Japan at Taipei, to our enquiry made on this matter:

1. "Doctor's Report" and "Police Report" as mentioned in Mr. Dar's letter could not be traced at Taipei in spite of all efforts.
2. As to "Cremation Permit" a certified copy of the original document on cremation permit which is held by the Bureau of Health and Hygiene Taipei Municipal Office, could be obtained. The document mentions the name of ICHIRO OKURA as the deceased and that of TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI as the applicant. Since the death of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose was kept strictly confidential at that time, it is believed that this cremation permit on ICHIRO OKURA must correspond to the case for late Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose.

Therefore, I wish to enclose herewith the above-mentioned copy of "Cremation Permit" together with its translation in English.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Hisaji Hattori

Chief of 4th Section  
Asian Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. A.K.Dar,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.



No.	Name of Disease	Date of Death Date of Permission Date of Cremation	Place of Burial & Cremation.	Occupation	Sex	Permanent Domicile Present address.	Name of Deceased	Date of Birth	Applicant Address	Na
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2640

2641	Heart Attack	Aug.19,1945 Aug.21,1945 Aug.22,1945	<del>000</del> Municipal Crematory	Non-regular staff mem- ber of Army Forces..	Male	No.1,2-Chome, Ichiro Dogenzaka, Okura Shibuya-ky, Tokyo. No.2,3-chome, Nogi-machi Taipei City	April 9, Unit 1900. No.21123 Yoshimi	Taneyoshi		
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Examined and authenticated by  
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

S E A L.

Sd/- Yasutoru Asahina  
Secretary,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
(Archives Section).

It is certified that the above statement, abstracted  
from the original document on cremation permit,  
is correct and true.

July 14, 1956.

Bureau of Health & Hygiene,  
Taipei Municipal Office. (Sealed)



(91)

(240)

(157)

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

July 25, 1956

Dear Mr. Hattori,

This is to acknowledge with thanks ✓ p. 157-158/c  
the receipt of your letter dated the 24th July,  
1956, the contents whereof have been forwarded  
to India.

Yours sincerely,

AKD

( A.K.Dar )

Mr. H. Hattori,  
Chief of the 4th Section,  
Asian Affairs Bureau,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Tokyo.

(210)





(92) 211

D.O. No. PS/56/NEC.  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.

Dated the 4th August 1956.



Sl. 88  
p. 149

My dear Dar,

Many thanks for your D.O. letter of 24th July 1956 enclosing photographs of Mr. Hachiya as well as of Rev. Mochizuki and Col. T. Sakai. The photographs (by Air Mail) came just in time for incorporating in our report. You will be glad to know that the report was handed over to the Prime Minister yesterday. It has been signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and myself.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S.N. MAITRA)

Y/S

Shri A.K. Dar,  
First Secretary  
Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

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SECRET

(93) No. 5741 JS (E)  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.

116

212



My dear Dar,

✓  
8.90.  
p. 156-158/0  
This is to acknowledge, with thanks,  
the receipt of your D.O. letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I  
dated 25th July 1956 and its enclosures.

Yours sincerely,

(T.N. Kaul)

Shri A.K. Dar, I.F.S.,  
First Secretary,  
Embassy of India in Japan,  
TOKYO.

213



TOP SECRET

(1162)

(213)



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(94)

NEW DELHI

15-7s

D.O. No. 25/4/NGO, 9th September 1957

My dear Jha,

I enclose for your information copy of a representation dated 1st July, 1957, addressed to the Prime Minister by the Priest of the Raskeji Temple regarding the ashes of the late Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. I shall be grateful if you will be so good as to acknowledge the Priest's letter and let us have your comments very early about the matter. As you are aware, the Prime Minister is likely to visit the temple during his tour to Japan.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

B.K. Acharya  
(B.K. Acharya)

Shri C.S. Jha, ICS,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO

(213)



(214) 163

July 1, 1957  
130, 2-chome, Koenji,  
Suginami-ku, Tokyo  
Japan.

His Excellency,  
Dr. Panjit Jawahar Lal Nehru,  
The Prime Minister of India,  
New Delhi, India.

Dear Sir,

As I stated in my letter dated November 25, 1953, I am keeping the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose singlehanded with a religionist's firm belief in so doing. During the past 13 years, I have overcome various difficulties to safeguard the ashes and never forgot due services to rest the soul of Netaji.

As a result of investigations made by a mission which was dispatched here by your government in 1956 to inquire into the death of the late Chandra Bose, the problem of Netaji's ashes safely kept in my temple has come to attract much public attention both here and abroad, and this made me more prudent in the safe-keeping and protection of the ashes. Considering the importance of the problem, I am firmly resolved to protect the ashes against any developments to maintain the dignity of Netaji's soul and to safeguard his ashes.

In January, 1954, a man you appointed came to my temple and read your letter to me. At that time, I expressed my desire to get the contribution of a sublime box to contain the ashes. He promised me to transmit it to you, but I am sorry to say that it has not yet been realized.

Now, I hope you will allow me to inform you the following points, on which if you kindly let me know your intentions, I am greatly obliged.

1. August 18 of this year is the 13th anniversary of Netaji's death. Since it is the most important event for my temple, I am planning to hold a solemn memorial service with the support of the Japanese Foreign Office, Indian Embassy in Japan, Tokyo Metropolitan Government and various other organizations concerned to mark the occasion with great significance.

2. If you do not mind, I would like to ask you whether your government has decided any measures for the maintenance of the dignity and the safe-keeping as well as for the return to India of Netaji's ashes.

3. At the news of your visit to Japan, the Japanese people are looking forward to the day with joy. It is easily supposed that you will be very busy with official arrangements when you visit Japan, but I sincerely hope as a religionist that you will visit my temple as a part of your official itinerary, or if impossible, unofficially to console the soul of Netaji.

I have the honour to pray that you will be in good health as ever.

Yours very truly,

Sd. Kyei Mechizuki

Priest of Renkoji Temple

(214)



TOP SECRET

(215)

D.O. No. F.5(1)NGO-I

(95)

September 20, 1957

My dear Acharya,

Please refer to your letter No. 25/4/NGO of 9th September, 1957.

2. As regards point 1 of Rev. Mochizuki's letter to the Prime Minister, this Embassy was represented at the ceremonial service held on the 18th August. I myself could not attend but the First Secretary, the Press Attache and the Military Attache were present on the occasion. Later the Prime Minister's decision to visit the temple on Sunday the 13th October disposes of point 3 of Rev. Mochizuki's letter. As regards point 2 the position is that Miss. Leilamani Naidu wrote to us in her letter No. D.5218-NGO/53 of 4th December, 1953, that Rev. Mochizuki should be informed that at a proper time Netaji's ashes will be sent for and appropriately kept in India. Since then the Prime Minister in answer to a question in the Lok Sabha on 29th September, 1955, said that no steps should be taken without the approval of the family of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We do not know if there have been any further developments in this connection. It is for our Government to decide whether they would ask for the ashes to be sent to India and the manner in which Netaji's ashes should be preserved or consecrated.

3. I presume it is your intention that you should yourself reply to Rev. Mochizuki's letter.

Yours sincerely,

( C. S. Jha )

Shri B.K. Acharya,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

(215)





TOP SECRET.

25(4)/NGO

(96)



October 29, 1957.

81 95  
164

My dear Ambassador,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No.F.5(1) NGO-I of the 20th September addressed to Shri Acharya, regarding the ashes of Netaji. The controversy in regard to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has not yet ended at least so far as some members of his family are concerned. The Prime Minister, therefore, decided on receipt of the Netaji Enquiry Committee's report that no attempt should yet be made to bring the ashes back to India. The present arrangement should continue. It will be expedient if perhaps you would suitably inform Rev. Mochizuki with reference to his letter to the Prime Minister.

With kind regards  
Yours sincerely,

J. S. MEHTA

Shri C. S. Jha, I.C.S.,  
Ambassador of India,  
TOKYO.

(216)



No. F.5(1)NGO-I

(97)

November 8, 1957


To

Rev. Kyoel Mochizuki,  
Priest of Renkoji Temple,  
130, 2-chome, Koenji,  
Suginami-ku, TOKYO.

Dear Sir,

On 1st July you wrote to His Excellency the Prime Minister of India asking him whether he had decided any measures for the maintenance of the dignity and the safe-keeping as well as for the return to India of Netaji's ashes. Since then Pandit Nehru has himself been to your temple and has seen the ashes kept by you there. Impressed by the arrangements made by you for the safe-keeping of these ashes, he feels that for the present they should continue in your temple. I trust this arrangement will be acceptable to you.

Yours faithfully,

  
( C.S.Jha )  
Ambassador of India

(217)



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

New Delhi (3), the ..... December, 1957

Dear Chancery,

Forwarded herewith is a copy of a letter dated 22nd November, 1957 addressed by Mr. Chisema Nishimura to the Prime Minister.

Five copies of the Netaji Inquiry Committee Report are sent herewith. One of these may kindly be sent to Mr. Nishimura with the remark that the Government of India have no objection to his quoting portions of the report in his articles.

Embassy of India in  
Japan,  
Tokyo.



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(219)

(1168)

(COPY)

YAMATO-KYOKU-KUNAI  
KANAGAWA-KEN-JAPAN.

HIS EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER  
DR. PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU JI.

NOVEMBER 22, 1957.

Dear Sir,

/continue pre-  
serving Netaji's  
ashes safely

I have the honour to inform you that as the adviser of Rankoji temple, I read the letter addressed to Rev Mochizuki which had been written at your request by His Excellency Ambassador Jhar. Asked by Rev Mochizuki of my opinion as to your proposal about preserving Netaji Base's ashes safely further, I instantly told him that I agreed with you about it. The he agreed, too. I am sure ~~he~~ will continue till the day when they are returned home at your request. In a few days Rev Mochizuki will post his letter to you, together with seven memorial photographs taken on October, 13.

By the way, I have a great favour to ask of you. The other day I read through the pamphlet entitled "Netaji Inquiry Committee Report" which had been published by Government of India in 1956. Rankoji temple was presented it by Indian Embassy. I as well as Rev. Mochizuki should like to let its contents know to Japanese people, as some of them misunderstand about Netaji's death and his ashes.

I would like you to let me know if you will kindly allow me quoting some contents of the Report when I write an article about it. I think just friendship between India and Japan will be produced on making both peoples' misunderstandings die down at the very beginning.

I wish you good luck and health.

Hoping to see you again some day in future if possible.

very truly  
Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(219)



(99) (220) 1169  
No. F.5(1)NGO-I

December 13, 1967

To

Mr. Chisema Nishimura,  
Yamato Kyoku-kunai,  
Kanagawa-Ken.

Dear Sir,

b 168/c  
I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22nd November, 1967, to the Prime Minister of India.

2. As desired by you in your letter I am to enclose herewith one copy of the Netaji Enquiry Committee's report and to inform you that the Government of India have no objection to your quoting portions of this publication in your article.

Yours faithfully,

*G. J. Malik*

( G.J.Malik )  
First Secretary

Encl:

(220)





FOREIGN SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

No. FS/1009

November 26, 1957

My dear Jha,

Prime Minister tells me that before he left Japan he heard that Amiya Bose, son of the late Sarat Chandra Bose, had reached Tokyo. Prime Minister would like to know what Shri Amiya Bose did in Tokyo. Did he pay any visit to the Renkoji Temple and did he call at the Embassy at all?

...

2. I also send herewith a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from the priest of the Renkoji Temple.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Dutt)

Shri C.S. Jha,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo (JAPAN)



(222)

To; Mr Shar Nowaz Khan,  
Chairman of the Netaji Investigation Committee  
c/o The Embassy of India in Japan.

From; Sankatsu Kobayashi  
No. 42, Maino Ipponsugi, Ochiai  
Yamato -cho, Kurokawa-gun,  
Miyagi-Ken.

Dear Sir;

Thank you very much for your letter of 25 May 1956.  
Since I am 65 years of age, I have forgotten most of the things  
happend in those days, but I write to you again as below whatever  
I have recollected:

From newspapers and magazines, I had understood that  
Mahatma Gandhi conducted non-violence movement against the British  
while great poet Tagore quietly strived for independence through  
his poems and that Indian nation were united in patriotism enduring  
all the difficulties with a beam of hope in their mind.

I first met him secretly to be his guide, at the instruction  
of Mr. Ohno, at Shinjuku station in 1933 if I remember it correctly  
and parted from him at Koenji station after a pretty long time.  
His secret house might have been located at 3-chome, Koenji, Tokyo  
and we met each other at certain places as he came like a wind.  
I was often asked by military policemen who he was and I had to  
move my car to other places to meet him. Once, he visited a  
western style house at Yoyogi parade ground and came back after  
came out looking a little nervous after half an hour. I thought  
he met Mr. Seigo Nakano then. On the other hand, he looked very  
cheerful after he visited Mr. Mitsuru Tohyama at Tokiwamatsu in  
Shibuya.

As I wrote to you in my previous letter, he married a daughter  
of Mr. Aizo Soma and Mrs, Kokko Soma who were running a fruit shop  
at Shinjuku. Mr. Soma is of Sendai origin but his house is not  
in the city at present. There were many Mr. Bose at that time  
They include Mr. Chnaselor Bose, Shibashi Chandra Bose and Subas  
Chandra Bose (spealed Phonetically), and I did not know who was the

(222)



(COPY)

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17

103, 2-chome  
Koenji, Suginami-ku  
Tokyo, Japan  
November 22, 1957

His Excellency Prime Minister  
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Dear Sir,

I have no adequate words to express my thanks for your having visited the Renkoji Temple on October 13. It was regrettable to me that as you were busy I could not have time enough to talk with you.

Netaji Bose's soul, I suppose, must have been content really with your visit. Enclosed here you will find the photographs taken on that day.

On November 8, I received a letter from His Excellency Ambassador Jha, telling that you had asked me to agree to preserving Netaji Bose's ashes safely further hereafter. Of course, I agree with you of this matter. But I feel Netaji's soul is anxious to return to his fatherland as soon as possible.

By the way, I should like to tell you that I was at Haneda Airport to see you off when you were about to leave Japan. Praying that you would reach your country safe, I saw you off at the general people's seats. I regret deeply I could not tell you good-by directly.

I close this letter, believing I shall be able to have a chance to see you again in future.

I wish you good luck and health.

Yours very truly

Sd/

Kyoei Mochizuki  
The priest of the  
Renkoji Temple.

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(101)

(224)

10th Dec. 1957

4-100  
P-17-100

My dear Dutt,

Will you kindly refer to your D.O. letter No. PS/1009 dated November 26, 1957? Amiya Bose was in Japan for about a month. He appears to have arrived just a few days before the Prime Minister's visit and left on the 30th October. I came to learn that he was here a few days before he left. He met our Military Attache and a day before he was due to leave he called on me.

2. Amiya Bose told me that he had come to Japan to collect original material in connection with Netaji Subhas Bose's biography which he was writing. During his stay he had contacted various people with a view to find out Netaji's contacts and activities in Japan. He had tried to get hold of any letters written by him to various people or other documents concerning him. He said that he had found a great regard for Netaji in Japan (which is true) and several people had promised to furnish him material. He also said that the house in which Netaji Subhas Bose lived in Calcutta had been converted into an international cultural centre which it was also intended to be used as a repository of things associated with Netaji. He was, however, rather woolly and vague about this. When asked by me about the precise nature of the activities of this Centre he added that it would be a sort of counterpart of the Indian Council of World Affairs.

3. Amiya Bose did not say that he had come to find out the truth about Netaji's death but when I asked him whether he had any views on that controversial subject he merely said that there were circumstances indicating that Netaji had been preparing to leave for Russia. He could not say whether Netaji was alive or dead but he had no hesitation in saying that the Enquiry Committee had not done its job properly and that the Government of India should have appointed a Committee of persons of higher calibre.

4. A few days before his departure he was entertained to lunch by an official of the Gaimusho (Mr. Miyake who used to be Counsellor in India) at which our Military Attache was also invited. No special significance need be attached to this. Gaimusho probably entertained him partly because their Consul General in Calcutta had written to them and partly because they wished to find out what he had been doing. It is the usual practice here for some officers of the Gaimusho to ask visiting Indians, even if they are not particularly distinguished, to a meal if they have been commended by their Embassy or Consuls General in India.

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5. We have no information about Amiya Bose having indulged here in any undesirable activities or expressions of opinion adverse to the Government of India or to its policies. I attach for your information a copy of a news item on him in the Japan Times.

6. As far as we have been able to ascertain, Amiya Bose did not visit the Renkoji Temple.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(C.S. JHA)

Shri S. Dutt, I.C.S.,  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi

Encl:1



(174)  
OCT. 17. 1957

BOSE'S NEPHEW HERE TO COLLECT DATA ON LEADER'S ACTIVITIES

The nephew of the celebrated Indian leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, is now in Japan on a three-week visit to collect material bearing on his uncle's activities in Japan.

Amiya Nath Bose, secretary of the Sarat Bose Academy in Calcutta, also desires to establish contacts in Japan for the academy, a research institute on national and international affairs.

Bose said he will welcome any information and help from persons here who had contacts with his uncle during the war.

The tall, well-built Indian scholar who bears a striking resemblance to his uncle said that the "Netaji's" house in Calcutta would be preserved intact to perpetuate the memory of the popular Indian freedom fighter, who is believed to have died in a plane crash in Taipei on his way to Japan shortly after the end of the Pacific War.

He said that plans are afoot to build an international hall and a guest house in the spacious compounds of the Bose home. These will be constructed with contributions from Asian countries "so that they can function as an Asian centre for studies on international affairs with special emphasis on Asian problems."

He said the memories of Bose are still cherished by many Indians so much so that 100,000 persons attended the memorial services held recently in Calcutta.

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He added that Calcutta remains the most important cultural center of India.

Rose is scheduled to spend the weekend in Kansai and resume his activities in Tokyo early next year. He is due to leave for Calcutta Oct. 29.





FOREIGN SECRETARY

**CONFIDENTIAL**

No.FS/1044.

December 12, 1957.

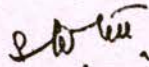
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
NEW DELHI



My dear Jha,

Thank you for your  
letter No.F.5(b)NGO-I of  
December 10 regarding Amiya  
Bose's activities in Japan.

Yours sincerely,

  
(S. Dutt)

Shri C.S. Jha,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo.

(228)



To Mr. G. J. Malik.  
First Secretary  
Embassy of India in Japan.

Amato Kyokukand  
Kanagawa-ken.  
December 16, '57



(229)

Dear sir,

(10)

I acknowledge receipt of your favour of December 13 and one copy of the Netaji Enquiry Committee's report.

I have no adequate words to express my thanks for them.

I should be much pleased if you would kindly convey my best regards to His Excellency Prime Minister of India.

I wish you good luck and health.

Yours truly.

Chisemushi Shimura

西村 千勢馬

P. S.

I enclose two photographs herewith.

One copy removed  
& placed below  
w/ his file

One copy removed by  
S. C. N.  
S. C. N.

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(104)

(230)



12th January, 1958.

Sir,

Please let us congratulate for your health. We understand that an association named Subhas Chandra Bose Academy will be formed in Calcutta on the 23rd of January, Netaji's birthday.

In this connection, we should like to hold a meeting of persons who had deep relation with the deceased in Japan and to seek your esteemed advice for forming a similar association here and thereby promote friendly relation between India and Japan.

We know you are very busy but sincerely hope you will kindly honour us with your presence.

Sincerely yours,

Caretakers:-

Shohzo Kawabe  
Takeo Iwakuro  
Chu Katakura  
Kikuko Maria Emori

Time: Noon,  
January 23, 1958 (Thur.)  
Place: Tohtoh Tei, Hibiya.

To  
His Excellency Mr. C.S. Jha,  
and Mrs. Jha.

K.K.  
Recv'd 22.1.58.

(230)

75.1.14  
may attend

23/1/58

75



F.5(1)NGO-I.

25th August, 1958.

My dear Acharya,

Please refer to the correspondence resting with Rauf's letter No. F.5(1)NGO-I of 5th December, 1952, about Subhas Bose's treasure.

2. Recently a Japanese gentleman named Keiso Takei now employed by the Miyoshi Chemical Co. Ltd. whose office is at 8, 1-chome, Tamachi, Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo has been coming to the Embassy. He claims that he has knowledge of the whereabouts of Subhas Bose's treasure which he can identify because he himself did liaison work with the INA during the war having, inter alia, trained Indian cadets in the INA.

3. According to him the principal item of jewellery is an oriental emerald weighing 18,400 carats. There are also star sapphires, white diamonds and other valuables. These valuables are allegedly deposited in the Mitsui Bank by the present holder, a Mr. Tajima. Mr. Takei offers to use his efforts to try to determine if the articles belonged to Subhas Chandra Bose and to persuade the present holder that his possession of these valuables is illegal and he should transfer them to the Embassy. Mr. Takei requests our cooperation and does not ask for any remuneration.

4. Personally we find it difficult to accept Mr. Takei's story. It seems incredible that an emerald of 18,400 carats should exist at all and, if it exists, should not be an object of interest to all collectors, museums and jewellers in the world. Similarly it is unlikely that Mr. Takei performed liaison duties with the INA because he speaks no language other than Japanese. However, as he is very insistent and has left a written statement in Japanese with us we feel that we should mention the matter to you in view of the interest which the Prime Minister himself took in this subject in 1951. At that time, I understand, the matter was dropped because it was considered that the publicity which might arise from any investigation would not be worth the value of the property likely to be salvaged. Now that we are offered some specific details, I wonder if you would like us to pursue it, and indicate how we should proceed. I might add that as the information furnished to us by Mr. Takei concerns a Japanese national and a Japanese Bank, any enquiries except through the agencies of the Japanese Government may be extremely difficult.

Yours sincerely,

( C.S. Jha )

Shri B.K. Acharya,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.





D.O. No: 25(4)NGO.

(106)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.

The 13th October, 1958.



My dear Jha:

I regret I have not been able to reply earlier to your letter No: F.5(1)NGO-I, dated the 25th August regarding Shri Subhas Bose's treasure.

2. On his return from Japan, however, I have consulted Foreign Secretary who is of the view that the best course will be for you to take up the matter with the Japanese Foreign Office. You might transmit to them the information which has reached the Embassy and ask the Foreign Office for their advice as to how best the matter could be pursued. It should be made clear to the Foreign Office that the Government of India have no intention of entering upon any protracted civil proceedings in this matter. You may, however, refer to the high esteem and veneration in which the memory of the late Shri Bose is held in India and add that, apart from the sentimental value to India of anything connected with him, it will only be in keeping with the late Shri Bose's struggle for giving a better deal to the poor people of his country to let any treasure left by him be utilised for some humanitarian purpose.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*B. K. Acharya*  
(B.K. Acharya)

Shri C.S. Jha, ICS.,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

(233)



No.F.5(1)HGO-1.

27th November, 1958.

My dear

Would you please refer to the correspondence about the late Shri Subash Chandra Bose's ashes resting with the Ambassador's letter of even reference dated 10th December, 1957.

Last month, I went to see Mr. Miyake, Dy. Director of the Asian Affairs Bureau in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He asked me when the Government of India proposed to remove Shri Bose's ashes. He explained that this was a personal enquiry as the priest had been feeling uncomfortable about the continued presence of the ashes in the temple. According to Mr. Miyake, it is not the custom in Japan for ashes to be kept continuously in temples. They are normally retained for a short period and then transferred to the family grave or shrine. Moreover, the priest also feels that he is getting old and that he should not leave the ashes to others after his death. I explained to Mr. Miyake that there had been no request from either Mr. Bose's family in Austria or his relatives in India and we may be embarrassed by having these ashes in India since, among Hindus, the ashes are cast into a river or otherwise scattered. Mr. Miyake said that, in any case, it would be more appropriate for the ashes to be disposed of in India than retained indefinitely in Japan.

I have reported this matter to the Ambassador who agrees that there is force in Mr. Miyake's argument particularly when we are officially taking steps to transfer the ashes of Shri Rash Behari Bose and arrangements are being made for keeping them in India.

This matter is being reported for your information and for any comments you may wish to make. I would also like some guidance as to what I should say to Mr. Miyake if he again raises this question, as I feel he will.

Yours sincerely,

( O.J. Malik )

Shri J.S. Mehta, I.F.S.,  
Deputy Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



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To: Mr. G.J. Malik  
First Secretary,  
Indian Embassy, Tokyo.

(235)

From: L.D.M. Abeyaratne &  
Ichiro Kagabu,  
96, Tokuji-cho, Ikegami,  
Ohta-ku, Tokyo.

Subject:- Buddha's emerald head illegally possessed by  
Japanese national.

Sir,

I send herewith a photo of Buddha's emerald head which originally belonged to the late Mr. Subash Chandra Bose. It is now possessed by Mr. Jusei Tajima, whose career is not clear excepting that he was in the South Seas area during the last war. The fact that he should possess the article is unreasonable. On one occasion he says he has bought it at Singapore, while on the another occasion he says he has bought it from Netaji's Japanese lady. Thus, whether he has got it through a proper channel or not is questionable.

As mentioned in an article "Whereabouts of Japanese diamond" in a magazine "Special issue of Bungei-Shunju 1956.2", matters regarding diamond were taken up at the Diet may be because there are some questions about Netaji's diamond. It is surmized from the article that Mr. Tajima might have illegally obtained the article.

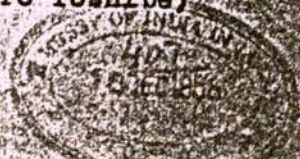
It is justice to recover it from the man who got the emerald head illegally.

In the circumstances I submit this photo to His Excellency the Ambassador hoping that the article in question may be returned to India through diplomatic procedures.

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Faithfully yours,

(L.D.M. Ameyertne)  
(Ichiro Toshiba)





236  
Translation from an article appeared in monthly magazine  
Bungei-Shunju 1956.2, special number.  
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## WHEREABOUTS OF ONE TRILLION YEN DIAMOND

By Mr. Kohichi Sekoh.

A large amount of diamond was procured by Japanese Government from the nation during the last war. According to a testimony at the Diet in those days by an official in charge, the amount of the diamond procured from the nation was about 160,000 carats, which is at present kept at the Bank of Japan.

I cannot, however, agree to the figure since there must be about ~~650,000~~ 650,000 carats according to the results of my investigation made when I was parliamentary vice Minister for International Affairs.

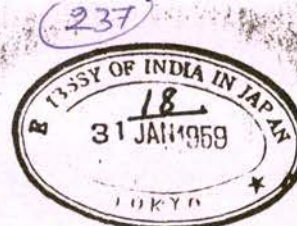
In this connection, many people were summoned to testify at the Diet after the war. I understand GHQ (General Headquarters) had delicate relation with the diamond issue. Accidentally I came to know they had 50 carats of diamond in their custody. Also, I know a large amount of diamond was found when a plane crashed with Mr. Bose and some Japanese on board. Further, many pieces of diamond had ~~been~~ scattered at the crashing site of a Japanese plane at Mr. Mihara.

My prayer is that diamond illegally possessed by certain people will come out to the world and returned to the original owners. I am sure huge amount of concealed diamond will be displayed at show-windows of jewel shops once a law authorizing ownership of diamond by the present owners is promulgated.

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(109)



Written opinion

To: His Excellency  
The Ambassador of India.

From: Ichiro Kagabu,  
96, Tokujicho, Ikegami, Ohta-ku, Tokyo.  
&  
L.D. M. Abeyratne

p. 182 anti

We have submitted earlier our written opinion on the Buddha's Emerald Head and introduced an article appeared in a magazine regarding a problem of diamond which was once taken up by Mr. Koichi Sekoh, member of the House of Representatives at the Diet.

Since Mr. Sekoh has been appointed State Minister in the Kishi Cabinet, we should suggest that you may kindly request him to expedite return of the Buddha's Emerald Head to India. Since Mr. Sekoh has strived for the cause of justice, we are sure that he will cooperate with you in the matter in his official capacity.

We write the above opinion for your information.

13th January, 1959.

VC. min. 1/14  
1/14  
1/14

(237)



印度大使刻下

意見書

エメラルト御首に ついて意見書と先きに  
 上りてありあつか 今の除参考  
 の為めに 衆議院議員世耕弘一氏の  
 意見と見界と述べて世耕氏の  
 ターヤモントに關する日本議會に問題化  
 した経過の記すも前に貴院に供す  
 ました。

茲に今回世耕氏は小倉外務省に務  
 大佐として入閣いなりすからこの  
 エメラルト御首やターヤモントに關して貴官





Nos

EMBASSY OF INDIA IN JAPAN  
TOKYO

February 23, 1961.

My dear

A couple of years ago this Embassy was informed by some non-official unknown Japanese that an emerald statue of Buddha of the length of about 10-11" once belonging to late Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was now in the possession of some Japanese family. It was reported that this statue was under negotiation for sale to some rich American and it was valued at a few million rupees. But the informant had stated that in view of the fact that the statue could have a sentimental value for the Government of India, they were in a position to arrange with the owners to sell it to us at even 10 to 15 per cent of the market value. The Ministry being consulted asked us to place the matter in the hands of the Japanese Foreign Office, who could be assured that we would not like to engage in any prolonged civil suit for the acquisition of the property. The Japanese Foreign Office when they were contacted, expressed helplessness in the absence of any definite knowledge of the whereabouts of the statue and any dependable evidence to show that the statue belonged to Netaji. As we ourselves had no other information besides the report of these unknown Japanese, the matter was allowed to rest at that.

2. A few days ago the report was once again made to us that the emerald statue was again available at a reasonable price. This time two of our officers succeeded in having a look at it. While none of them is a connoisseur of jewels, as laymen both of them felt that the material seemed to be somewhat similar to the emerald Buddha in Bangkok which is now in the possession of the Government of Thailand. The Foreign Office here has once again been approached. They have once again raised the difficulty about the lack of evidence to show that the property belonged to Netaji. Even if they succeed in securing the statue from its present holders, we have no such proof on our record. It is, however, believed that in case it really did form a part of the jewels in possession of Netaji when he died in the air crash, it must have been presented to him by some people either in Singapore or in Thailand or in Burma. It would, therefore, help us if it could be ascertained from people who were associated with the collection of funds for the Indian National Army in those countries whether in their knowledge, such a contribution was ever received by Netaji. I shall be grateful if you could kindly make confidential enquiries from such persons in your place who were close to Netaji during the Movement to find out if they could throw any light on the subject.

I hope you are keeping well and with kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

2. (1) Syh. Mani Rangan

(2) Syh. Y.-K. Puri - Ranchi

(3) San. N. S. Gille - Bangkok

(Lalji Mehrotra)

(240)



For Burma

my

P.S. I think that Mr. Dina Nath, Sardar Zora Singh and Mr. Bashir of Bashir Shoe Company were connected with the collection ~~of~~ and administration of funds for the Azad Hind Army. Perhaps they may be able to say something so far as collections in Burma are concerned.



より直接世耕式にこれ等の印及への  
 返還を促進する採中供力を促す  
 世利は過去に於いて個人としてい  
 義の努力に努力せられた人  
 今、私は日本政府の公人として心ず  
 や貴官に供力、いしむべき一ツの  
 情報として貴官に見書と提出、  
 いたします

一九五九、一、十三、

カカガ

利部一

Signature

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 ishi  
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 strived  
 you in



~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

P.K. Banerjee, IFS,  
Counsellor.

Do. No. F. S(1)-N602

(111)

(242)

7th March, 1961.

My dear

Enclosed is a report on an image of emerald Buddha alleged to be part of personal property of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

In 1958 also, we received some information in this regard but our effort was fruitless. This time, however, we were more careful and discrete. At least we have been able to have a look at this emerald Buddha. Whether it is genuine or not is a different matter.

You may also notice that we brought this matter to the attention of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and they are making investigation. If you have any information to confirm that Netaji Bose had an emerald Buddha in his possession, it would help us a lot. If you have any other instruction in the matter, kindly drop me a line.

With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

*P.K.B.*  
(P.K. Banerjee)

Shri K.L. Mehta,  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

(242)



Information Service of India

Mr. T. Ishikawa, a resident of Aomori City, accompanied by a person, who was introduced to us as a Buddhist monk, called at the ISI yesterday and reported that a 1700-year-old image of Lord Buddha made of emeralds, was soon to be sold by its owner to an American multi-millionaire connected with the Rockefeller Foundation for US. \$30 million. Mr. Ishikawa himself had neither seen the image nor did he know its owner. But the monk had seen the image and also knew its owner. According to him, the image showed Lord Buddha with folded hands, was about a feet high and weighed 14,700 carots. It was fixed on a 21" sq. piece of wood.

2. The Buddhist monk further added that the image originally belonged to the late Subhash Chandra Bose, but, after his death, came to be acquired by its present owner. He refused to disclose as to how the latter came to possess the image or what his name and address were. He, however, said that the owner had two houses: one in Tokyo and the other in Aomori, and that the image was at present lying in Tokyo.

3. Both Mr. Ishikawa and the Buddhist monk added that they did not like the idea of an image of Lord Buddha going to the USA for sake of money. On the other hand, they thought that Prime Minister Nehru was anxious that the image should be acquired by the Govt. of India. They said that they would be very happy to help the Govt. of India in acquiring the image if we agreed to pay them 5% of the total amount for which the image was going to be sold i.e. \$1.5 million. They refused to disclose as to how they could accomplish such a remarkable job of getting us an article for \$1.5 million when, according to their own statement, someone else was ready to pay \$30 million for the same article.

4. The matter was reported to the Counsellor. He said that there were some previous papers also on the subject. A look at the old file showed that a story about the treasures of the late Subhash Bose was told to us in 1953 also. At that time one Keizo Takei, an employee of the Miyoshi Chemical Co., Ltd., Tokyo, informed us that the treasures of the late Bose were deposited in the Mitsui Bank by their present holder, a Mr. Tajima. He also added that the principal item of treasures was an oriental emerald weighing 18,400 carots. The matter was reported to the Government of India in August 1958. They advised that the best course for us would be to take up the matter with the Japanese Government. We could transmit to them the information which we had and ask them for their advice as to how best the matter could be handled. We were also asked to make it clear to the Japanese Government that the Govt. of India had no intention of entering upon any protracted civil proceedings in this matter.

(attached)

5. The matter was taken up with Mr. Iwama of the Gaimusho in December 1958 by our former First Secretary, Mr. Malik. An extract from a note recorded by him after meeting Mr. Iwama is reproduced below:

"He was rather discouraging saying that information we had received was not specific, that it would be difficult for the Police to undertake investigations without infringing the Human Rights Provisions of the Constitution, etc. He went so far as to suggest that we should engage a private detective. I pointed out that publicity was precisely what it was the interest of both Governments to avoid and that police could find things out with much less danger of publicity than a private investigation. I also said that it would be desirable to give some answer to the various parties which had come to the Embassy with information. Mr. Iwama said he would consult the Legal



- 2 -

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Affairs Bureau".

There do not seem to have been any further developments in the matter since then.

Sd/-  
Dhian Singh  
13.1.61.

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)

Mr. Ishikawa and the Buddhist monk may be asked to show to our representative the image to enable us to judge the value of the same. While the repetition of such an offer gives a reason to imagine that some article of the kind does exist. We cannot entirely rely on it and take the next step until we see it ourselves.

Sd/-  
(Lalji Mehrotra)  
14.1.61.

Counsellor.

I suggest that FS(C) and TS(ISI) may kindly have a look at it and report.

Sd/-  
(P.K. Banerjee)  
16.1.61

Mr. Ishikawa contacted the Embassy today on the telephone. I told him that we would like to have a look at the image before considering the matter further. At first, he demanded 5% of \$30 million even for showing it, but later on said that he would contact us again after consulting some other people.

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)  
16.1.61.

Today Mr. Ishikawa and one Mr. Mikami who calimed to be priest but looked and behaved like a desperate character called on me. They have agreed to come on Friday, the 10th February at 1 P.M. here to take Shri Jerath and myself to the place and show us the image. They were very keen that we should decide about the matter. They also pressed for some key-money which the undersigned refused. One so-called certificate (copy) was given and also their local address near Gehinkan (Both attached)

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)  
8.2.1961

Counsellor  
Mr. Jerath

Good Luck.

Sd/-  
P.K.B.  
9.2.61.

Sd/-  
(R.K. Jerath)  
9.2.61.

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On Friday the 10th February, FS(C) Shri Jerath and I, accompanied by interpreter went to a place near Gehinkan. We were escorted there by Mr. Ishikawa and Mr. Mikami and later on were introduced to three other gentlemen viz. Mr. Tojima (who claimed to be the owner), Mr. Kumouchi (an old man who gave the certificate) and one Mr. Akihara.

Mr. Tojima (a medium-sized man of about 50 years) claimed that the said image had been in his possession for over 40 years and that he had purchased it in Singapore. Later on he and others partly contradicted the claim and vaguely associated it with Shri Subhash Bose.

Ultimately the image was produced. The image of Buddha was about 9 or 10 inches in height. It seemed to be of emerald though we, of course, could not testify to its value or genuineness. The Buddha head was hollow from inside but was appeared to be fairly heavy.

Shri Jerath and I returned without any commitment and promised further consideration. After discussions with Ambassador and Counsellor, the undersigned informed Mr. Ishikawa and Mr. Mikami that the Embassy would proceed in the matter only through the Government of Japan.

On 15th February Shri Jerath and I met Mr. Uchida of the Gaimusho and requested informally that the matter should be investigated. To this the Gaimusho officials agreed.

Today I handed over a copy of the certificate and a copy of the address given by Mr. Mikami to Gaimusho. Later on Mr. Kawai accompanied by a plain-clothed detective and pointed out the place near Gehinkan where the image had been shown to us. Mr. Kawai had to be sent to the place near Gehinkan because the telephone number given by Mr. Kumouchi was wrong according to Gaimusho.

It should also be mentioned that Mr. Uchida and other officials of the Gaimusho mentioned that there are likely to be two difficulties in the matter viz.

- i) It will be very difficult to take over the image from the present possessor in so far as legal proceedings by the Government of Japan would be necessary.
- ii) Even if the image was recovered, it would be difficult to prove that the present ownership is illegal and also that the image in fact did belong to Shri Subhash Bose.

In view of the above, Ambassador may kindly consider writing to associates of Netaji to obtain further evidence in the matter.

Sd/-  
(H.D. Bhalla)  
20.2.61

FS(C)

Sd/-  
(R.K. Jerath)  
21.2.61

Ambassador.

255

22



(246)

(193)

Address given by Mr. Mikami

at 13 10/

in Hozumi Kensetsu

Opposite Telephone-Telegraph

Office

Sankocho, Meguro

(256)

Faithfully yours,

(L. J. H. Ameyertne)

(Ichiro Toshiba)



(COPY)

To

Whom it may concern this (crystal) I judge  
with my wide experience.

It is to be a (oriental emerald) I am sure.

Height	21 cm
circumference	37 cm
neck	23.6 cm
weight	951 monnae (3,575 kg) 17,280 carats.

I do not think another one like this existed  
anywhere in the world.

Martin H. Kamouchi

A diamond dealer of USA

Tokyo address

Phone (44 - 3059

(257)



(258)

(195)

(195)

Mr. Kamouchi

Tel: (441) - 8231

(258)



(249)  
16th December, 1958.

To:

Mr. G.J. Malik,  
First Secretary,  
Indian Embassy, Tokyo.

From:

L.D.M. Abeyaratne &  
Ichiro Kagabu,  
96, Tokujii-cho, Ikegami,  
Ohta-ku, Tokyo.

Subject: Buddha's emerald head illegally possessed  
by Japanese national.

Sir,

I send herewith a photo of Buddha's emerald head which originally belonged to the late Mr. Subash Chandra Bose. It is now possessed by Mr. Jusei Tajima, whose career is not clear excepting that he was in the South Seas area during the last war. The fact that he should possess the article is unreasonable. On one occasion he says he has bought it at Singapore, while on the another occasion he says he has bought it from Netaji's Japanese lady. Thus, whether he has got it through a proper channel or not is questionable.

As mentioned in an article "Whereabouts of Japanese diamond" in a magazine "Special issue of Bungei-Shunju 1956.2", matters regarding diamond were taken up at the Diet may be because there are some questions about Netaji's diamond. It is surmized from the article that Mr. Tajima might have illegally obtained the article.

It is justice to recover it from the man who got the emerald head illegally.

In the circumstances I submit this photo to His Excellency the Ambassador hoping that the article in question may be returned to India through diplomatic procedures.

Faithfully yours,

(L.D.M. Ameyertne)

(Ichiro Toshibe)

(259)



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Translation of written statement by Mr. K. Takei,  
Miyoshi Chemical Co. Ltd., Establishment Office,  
No. 8, 1-chome, Kanda, Tanohi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo,  
at the Chancery on the 8th August, 1958.

No.1 To try to determine with all our efforts whether  
or not the article (oriental emerald, C. 18,400,951 momme)  
belongs to Chandra Bose.

Others (Star supphire and white dia)

If there are no records in the Embassy, we will do our  
best and find evidence to show that the article belongs  
to Chandra Bose.

No.2 We will explain to the present holder of the article  
that his possession of the article is illegal and try  
to have it transferred to the Embassy.

No.3 If the Embassy has any good methods, we will give full  
cooperation with you. Without remuneration.  
In the case of No.1 & 2, remuneration is needed for the  
present holder and others who cooperate.

No.4 Have an appointment to see the present holder.

Names: 1. Tajima 2. Nakamura 3. Kameuchi  
4. Go shu so 5. Ando.

No.5 Those who determined it to be oriental emerald  
C.18,400(951 momme) are:

K. Takei, M. Takumi and K. Urabe.

The attached name card reads:

Keizo Takei

Sanji Chemical Industries Co. Ltd.,

Founding Office: 8, 1-chome, Kanda O-machi

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo (Tel. 251-5613)

260



Translation from an article appeared in monthly magazine Bungei-Shunju 1956-2, special number.

## WHEREABOUTS OF ONE TRILLION YEN DIAMOND

By Mr. Kohichi Sekoh.

A large amount of diamond was procured by Japanese Government from the nation during the last war. According to a testimony at the Diet in those days by an official in charge, the amount of the diamond procured from the nation was about 160,000 carats, which is at present kept at the Bank of Japan. I cannot, however, agree to the figure since there must be about 650,000 carats according to the results of my investigation made when I was parliamentary vice Minister for International Affairs. In this connection, many people were summoned to testify at the Diet after the war. I understand GHQ (General Headquarters) had delicate relations with the diamond issue. Accidentally I came to know they had 50 carats of diamond in their custody. Also, I know a large amount of diamond was found when a plane crashed with Mr. Bose and some Japanese on board. Further, many pieces of diamond had scattered at the crashing site of a Japanese plane at Mr. Mihara.

My prayer is that diamond illegally possessed by certain people will come out to the world and returned to the original owners. I am sure huge amount of concealed diamond will be displayed at show-windows of jewel shops once a law authorizing ownership of diamond by the present owners is promulgated.





129-15/16  
27/3  
K.L.Mehta, ICS.,  
Joint Secretary.

TOP SECRET  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

15th March, 1961.

D.O. No. D2166-N24/61

My Dear P.K.,

Thank you for your Top Secret letter No.F.5(1)-NGO.I dated the 7th March, 1961, and the very interesting enclosure. I discussed with F.S. who feels that any attempt to establish Netaji's ownership over the emerald Buddha would be like a wild goose' chase. It is possible, however, that our Ministry of S.R. & C.A. may be interested in this image of Buddha for one of their Museums. Do you think it would be worth our while to take this up with them, specially as we are not even sure that the image is genuine and in fact worth very much more than what we may have to pay to the intermediaries.!

Best regards,  
K.L.Mehta  
(K. L. Mehta)

Shri P.K.Banerjee, IFS.,  
Counsellor,  
Embassy of India,  
TOKYO.

(262)





AMBASSADOR

137-SD/4  
27.3.61

No. 32/61

(113)

EMBASSY OF INDIA  
BANGKOK

13th March, 1961  
Phalguna 22, 1882 (Saka)

(101)  
22.3.61

My dear Lalji Mehrotra,

SN<sup>o</sup> (111)

Please refer to your No. 5(1)NGO of 23.2.1961 regarding an emerald statue of Buddha which may belong to late Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. I have talked to two persons who were likely to throw the best light on the subject. Ishar Singh Nirula, who was a Minister in Netaji's government and who has lived in Thailand for long, told me that he did see the jewellery when it was being packed to be sent with Netaji when he left Bangkok for the last time. He does not remember seeing any emerald Buddha in this jewellery. He, however, states that he had only a general look and was not looking for any particular piece. He says S.A. Aiyer, who was put in charge of the jewellery accompanying Netaji, may be the best person to throw light on the matter.

3. The other person I have talked to is Sewak Mehtani, whose house Netaji was occupying and who was also in fairly close touch with him. He says he did not see the jewellery when it was being packed. However, he knows that before leaving Bangkok, Netaji gave some pieces to some of his aides and the rest he took with himself in carefully packed boxes. He feels these boxes must have been with him when the plane crashed in Formosa. So Habibul Rahman may be the best person to know what was packed and what happened to it after the crash.

4. I am sorry I cannot send you more helpful information for none here is likely to have any more than these two persons. Both of them state they never heard of any such magnificent piece being given to or being with Netaji. Aiyer's address I do not know but could be easily obtained from the Ministry. If it is any use approaching Habibul Rahman, he could perhaps be traced through the Pakistan Embassy at Tokyo. Bhonsle may also be able to throw some light as he was with Netaji till the last month, as also Gulzara Singh, a very staunch and trustworthy officer of Netaji. J.K. Bhonsle (General, INA) is Adviser to the Ministry of Education. And Gulzara Singh is in the Army and could be contacted through the Army Headquarters. He is probably a Major or a Lt. Colonel now as he had to rejoin in a lower rank than his original one.

With kindest regards and when do we see both of you again,

Yours sincerely,

(Naranjan Singh Gill)

Shri Lalji Mehrotra,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
TOKYO

(263)



March 20, 1961.

Dear Mr. Ohi,

With reference to this morning's telephone conversation, we understand that the appropriate authorities have been able to establish contacts with the people connected with the image of Lord Buidha. Regarding your suggestion that a reputed jeweller could also assist in the matter and also your suggestion that Mr. Kawai of our Embassy should discuss the matter with some officials, we are very happy to agree to the same and shall be grateful if we are acquainted with further progress in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A. B.  
(H. Bhalla)

Mr. Hinoshi Ohi,  
South West Asia Section,  
Gaimusho, Tokyo.





सत्यमेव जयते

D.O.No.6 PG 60/102.

EMBASSY OF INDIA

Rangoon, 12th April 1961.

My dear Ambassador,

Please refer to your letter No.5(1)NGO dated February 23, 1961.

The story of the emerald Buddha is very interesting, but I have not been able to find any confirmation whatsoever from sources in Rangoon. Neither Dina Nath nor Zora Singh are aware of any such valuable emerald Buddha having been given to Netaji in Burma. A few months ago, there was a story of an emerald Buddha having been brought to light in Amritsar, and it was alleged that this had been taken from Burma by an Indian soldier. This has obviously nothing to do with the statue now in Japan. If any further relevant information comes to light, I shall write to you again.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(R. S. MANI)  
Ambassador.

Shri Lalji Mehrotra,  
Ambassador of India,  
Tokyo, (JAPAN)

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243 16/5/61  
 By category 'A' bag  
 D.O.No. F. 2(11)-5/61

(116)

(25)

SECRET

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA  
 KUALA LUMPUR

21st April, 1961

My dear Mehrotra Sahab,

172  
 16/5/61  
 I am sorry that I have not been able to acknowledge earlier the receipt of your secret D.O. No. 5(1)NGO of February 23, 1961 regarding an emerald statue of Buddha said to have belonged to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. We have been making some enquiries both here and at Penang but have not so far been able to get any specific information. As and when we get any pointer in this connection, I shall write to you again. Meanwhile it occurs to me that two of the people most connected with Netaji are Shri N. Raghavan, previously our Ambassador in France and now settled in India, and Shri A.M. Sahay, previously our Ambassador in Thailand, and now living in India. I am afraid I do not have their addresses in India. It is also possible that you may have already written to them. It seems to me that they will be the two people in the best position to know about this matter.

2. We are all very well and hope that you all are also in the best of health and spirits.

Yours sincerely,

(Y.K. PURI)

Shri Lalji Mehrotra,  
 Ambassador of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

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सत्यमेव जयते

SECRET

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA

KUALA LUMPUR

By category 'A' bag  
D.O.No.F.2(11)-S/61

28th April, 1961

My dear Mehrotra Sahib,

In continuation of my letter of even No. of 21st April, 1961 regarding the emerald statue of Buddha, I am writing to say that we had consulted Mr. S.A. Das, the author of "Chalo Delhi", who also knew Shri Subhash Chandra Bose very well. I am afraid Shri Das has no information about the emerald statue.

2. We also consulted Dr. M.K. Lukshumeyah, at one time Secretary-General of the Rear Headquarters of the Indian Independence League and who knew Netaji fairly intimately. Dr. Lukshumeyah said that it was not Netaji's practice to make a show of religion or of religious symbols. He never saw any emerald statue of the Buddha or other similar religious symbol in the possession of Netaji and he rather doubts whether the emerald statue mentioned in your letter ~~did~~ ever belong to Netaji.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Y.K. PURI)

Shri Lalji Mehrotra,  
Ambassador of India in Japan,  
Tokyo.

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